

# THE DIAL

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# THE DIAL

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## THE VICTORIAN GARDEN OF SONG.

It is always difficult to fix the limits of a literary period. Such terms as the Age of Pericles, the Augustan Age (Roman or English), and the Elizabethan Age stand, indeed, for fairly definite concepts; we recognize the fact that a certain unity of spirit and aspiration in the writers who made them famous justifies their employment as counters in the game of literary history; yet scientific precision of statement is obviously out of the question where they are concerned. We are reminded, somehow, of the decorative swirl wherewith, in Mr. Vedder's designs for the quatrains of Omar, we find symbolized the convergence of all the forces and influences that meet in the hour of our conscious existence, only to diverge once more from that focus, that they may enter into other and we know not what combinations. Thus it is with the Victorian Age in our literature: we know that it has been the outcome of the past; we know, likewise, that its scattered elements will enter into the spiritual synthesis of the future; but to us, whose lives have been shaped by its ideals, the immediate fact of its nearness to us is all-important, and the impulse to regard it as a concrete is well-nigh irresistible.

When Mr. Stedman published his "Victorian Poets," in 1875, he brought abundant and convincing logic to the support of the faith that was in us of the belief that we were nearing the close of a literary epoch as well-marked and as distinctly characterized as any that had preceded it in our history. Now, at a date twenty years removed, the same skilful hand gives us a "Victorian Anthology" which confirms the earlier impression, and leaves us with a deepened sense of the richness in poetical material and inspiration of the period in which our fortunate lot has been cast. That the end has been now reached is by no means certain, and the transition to the poetry of the coming century will, no doubt, be made easy by many connecting links of melodious utterance, just as the poetry of Wordsworth and Landor did much to save from abruptness the passage from the glorious period of Shelley, Keats,

and Coleridge, to the no less glorious period of Tennyson, Browning, and Mr. Swinburne. Yet the signs of a closing epoch are, on the whole, clearer in 1895 than they were twenty years ago, and Mr. Stedman's prognostication has not been flouted by the emergence of any new and distinctive poetical force. It was made at a time when six great poets of English speech wore the laurel upon living brows; since it was made, four of the six have gone "where Orpheus and where Homer are," and no new altar-fires have sprung up to dim the light of the two singers who still happily remain with us. We cannot, in the nature of things, hope for an extension of the Victorian name far over the years to come, and no twentieth century compiler of a Victorian anthology will be likely much to exceed the scope of Mr. Stedman's collection.

The octogenarian of to-day whose years have run parallel with those of England's Queen, and who has been all his life a lover of poetry, has had many things for which to be thankful, many sensations of the rarer and more exquisite sort. To such a person, coming to manhood, let us say, in the very year of the Queen's accession, the deaths of Shelley and Keats were but childish memories, while the deaths of Scott and Coleridge doubtless seemed to ring the knell of creative poetry. Yet he may have been old enough to be captivated by the first poems of Tennyson, and to detect in them the new note which even then set the key in which the swelling harmonies of the coming age were destined to be scored. Possibly, also, he may have strayed, at the verge of manhood, upon "Pauline" and "Paracelsus," and wondered at their strange cadences and virile strength. His first genuine sensation, however, must have been delayed until 1842, when the possibilities of Tennyson's genius were first fully revealed. The middle of the century found our lover of song in possession of "The Princess" and "In Memoriam," and of a series of Browning volumes numerous and distinctive enough to put beyond question the fact that this poet also must be reckoned with. If, moreover, he had lent an attentive ear to the new voices about him, he could not have failed to be impressed by the quality of a thin volume, published in 1848, and entitled "The Strayed Reveller and Other Poems." At least, the appearance of "Empedocles on Etna and Other Poems," in 1853, must have made it clear that a third great poet had arisen in Victorian England. The year 1855, when the subject of our imaginary

biography had just turned the forties, must still be remembered by him as an *annus mirabilis*, for it brought the "Poems" of Arnold, Tennyson's "Maud," and the "Men and Women" of Browning.

Some ten years were to elapse before another sensation of the first class was possible. The first series of Mr. Swinburne's "Poems and Ballads" appeared in 1866, and even our hypothetical octogenarian, who then had a half century to his credit, would probably subscribe to the opinion of Mr. Saintsbury (a much younger man), when he says: "I do not suppose that anybody now alive (I speak of lovers of poetry) who was not alive in 1832 and old enough then to enjoy the first perfect work of Tennyson, has had such a sensation as that which was experienced in the autumn of 1866 by readers of Mr. Swinburne's 'Poems and Ballads.' And I am sure that no one in England has had any such sensation since." Our reader may, however, have been in a measure prepared for the experience by getting hold of the "Atalanta" in 1864, of the "Chastelard" in 1865, and even of "The Queen Mother" and "Rosamond" in 1861. He may also have recognized the possibilities of still another poet, who put forth "The Defence of Guenevere" as early as 1858. At all events, he can have had no doubt of the appearance of a fifth great Victorian poet when the year 1867 brought "The Life and Death of Jason," and the following year the beginnings of "The Earthly Paradise." England might now proudly boast of five great poets among the living; would there be a sixth? The question was soon answered. It was in 1870 that the friends of Rossetti persuaded him to exhume the manuscript collection of verse that had, in a passion of unassuageable grief, been consigned to the grave with the body of his wife, and to give it to the world. The publication of this volume gave to our lover of poetry the last distinctive sensation that he was to know. The quarter-century that has elapsed since 1870 has brought him no experience comparable with this, and his pleasures have been limited to the retrospective enjoyment of a rich past, and delight in the later productions of the six great poets whose fame was so long ago so surely established.

Mr. Stedman's "Victorian Anthology" fills six hundred and seventy-six compact double-columned pages, eighty-seven of which are devoted to the six Victorian master singers. No other poets are illustrated at similar length, with the exception of Landor, who stands in



the forefront of the epoch, and, more than any other poet, serves to link it with the age of Shelley. Examples are given us of no less than three hundred and forty-three poets, thirty-six of whom belong to Australasia and Canada. The three hundred and seven English (as distinguished from Colonial) poets are grouped in three great divisions, corresponding to the beginning, the middle, and the close of the reign. In each of these divisions, subdivisions are formed, and the fine critical sense of the editor is displayed in the felicitous names that he has given to these lesser groups. Nothing could be happier, for example, than to classify Barham, Maginn, and Mahony as "The Roisterers"; Barnes, Waugh, and Laycock under the style of "The Oaten Flute," or Locker-Lampson, Calverley, and Sir Frederick Pollock as writers of "Elegantiae." This carefully-considered classification is in itself a great help to the student, and often suggests affinities that would otherwise be likely to escape his notice. Nothing is lacking to make this great anthology all that could be desired. Besides the features of the work that have already been mentioned, there is such an introductory essay as Mr. Stedman alone could write, a section devoted to biographical notes, and indexes of first lines, titles, and poets. By way of adornment, to say nothing of such unfailingly tasteful mechanical features as we have learned to expect from Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin, & Company, the book has two appropriate illustrations in photogravure—the "Poet's Corner" in the Abbey where so many of England's poets lie buried, and the Queen whose name will always be as firmly associated with that of Tennyson as the name of Elizabeth is associated with that of Shakespeare. No less noticeable than the fine critical taste displayed by Mr. Stedman in making his selections is the conscientiousness which has gone into every detail of his work. It would be difficult to imagine a better-made anthology, or one more likely to take a permanent place among standard works of reference. It belongs to the small class which includes Mr. Humphry Ward's "English Poets" and Professor Palgrave's "Golden Treasury," and hardly any other collections of English verse. We may well be proud as a nation that such a work for English poetry should have been left for an American to perform. The book is one that will prove simply indispensable to students of poetry and cultivated readers alike.

### THE REAL AND THE IDEAL. A HINT FROM NATURE.

To Walter Pater's question, "Is poetry, the literary beauty, the poetical ideal, always but a borrowed light upon man's actual life?" I think an affirmative answer must be given. The poetry is from within; it is the light that never was upon sea or land; and this light is upon the past more than upon the present. The present moment is always prosy and commonplace. The grandeur and significance of our own day are very apt to be hidden from us. Hence to wed poetry and modernity is always a difficult task. It is easier to charm us with the imaginary than with the real. I think undoubtedly Hawthorne had an easier task than has Mr. Howells, Balzac than Zola. The latter is sometimes overpowered and hampered by the reality—as in "Lourdes."

All true art is interpretative. The great realist, like Tolstoi, interprets life. If he were merely to copy it, we should tire even of him. To interpret it is not to improve upon it; it is to draw it out, set it off, and make us see it through a new medium and as a whole. The true historian interprets history, shows us what probably the actors themselves did not know. The value of any writer's or artist's interpretation of life is in proportion as it is vivid and large and true. Did not Carlyle interpret Cromwell to his countrymen? In art, facts are to be digested, made fluid, and informed with life. In science, they are to be left as facts. If I go out and name every bird I see, and describe its color and ways—give a lot of facts about the bird—my reader is not interested. But if I relate the bird in some way to human life, to my own life, show what it is to me and what it is in the landscape or the season, speak of it in terms of general human experience, then is the reader interested. Only so do I give him a live bird. To cast an air of romance, of adventure, of the new and untried, over common facts and common life—to infuse the ideal into the real—that is the secret.

The best analogy I know of in Nature of the relation of the artist to his environment is furnished by the honey-bee. The bee is both realist and idealist. Her product reflects her environment, and it reflects that which her environment knows not of. Most persons think the bee gets her honey from the flowers. But she does not; honey is the product of the bee—it is the nectar of the flower with the bee added. What the bee gets from the flower is sweet water; this she brings home in her honey bag; she meditates upon it as it were; she puts it through a process of her own; she reduces the water and adds a minute drop of formic acid, secreted by her own body. It is this minute drop which gives honey its delicious sting, like the works of genius, and makes it differ from all other sweets in the world.

Nothing is better, nothing is more indispensable

in a novel or other imaginative work, than local color, local flavor, the atmosphere of the time and place; but these things must all have been supplemented, and in a measure changed, by the genius of the artist. We shall detect New York, or New England, or California, or the South, in his work, only as we detect the local flora in the product of the bee. The honey of Hymettus is not like that of Pentelicon; the honey of California is not like that of Michigan or Florida, yet all kinds agree in being honey and not merely nectar. You can taste the flowers in each one of them—the clover, the orange blossom, the thyme, the linden, the sumac; but to the nectar of each the bee has imparted her own peculiar and transforming quality.

A recent London writer argues against realism in fiction, because, he says, "In human life there are no facts. . . . Life is in the eye of the observer. The humor or the pity of it belongs entirely to the spectator, and depends upon the gift of vision he brings." Still there are facts in life—facts of race, of country, of time, of conditions; and the work of the true realist reflects them. New England life, old England life, life in Texas or Iowa or Massachusetts,—here are facts that must modify the work of the novelist who finds the materials of his story in any of these countries.

One might as well say there are no facts in Nature—no facts anywhere. True, all depends upon the eye that sees, upon its interpretative power; but the facts—the types, the conditions—must be there to start with. We do not want a barren realism, as I suspect we sometimes get in Zola; we do not want merely the raw sweet water of the facts: we want soul and personality added; we want the amber liquid with the delicious sting in which the nectar of fact has been transmuted into something higher and finer. I suspect that all Mr. Garland really demands in that suggestive little volume of his called "Crumbling Idols" is that Western bees shall make honey from Western flowers—though he may err a little in thinking this honey will be better than any ever made before.

JOHN BURROUGHS.

#### MONA LISA.

What had this woman felt and seen and known,  
Ere, Lionardo, she was snatch't by thee  
From our gross precincts of mortality  
To that serene and untranscended zone  
Where the fair arts abide! Lo, years have flown,  
And new lands have been born beyond the sea;  
But she remains from perturbation free,  
This woman that hath made all life her own!

O glorious face! triumphant over time  
And chance and change and ignorance and woe,  
What was the secret talisman sublime  
That bore thee up against the common foe,  
That let thee smile at Death, and, in thy prime,  
Look back on youth as on a toy let go?

W. P. TRENT.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

##### THE DECADENT "THOMSON."

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

Since reading THE DIAL of October 1, I have been racking my brains for a satisfactory estimate of "Thomson," the decadent scholar; but with no adequate results. One feels a slight uncertainty whether his biographer really intends him to be taken seriously. There is an indescribable air about the story which is not inconsistent with the theory that the writer holds a "retainer" from that commanding portion of the American public which is represented as in deadly hostility to the "unbias" (here my dictionary is left behind) of the German university.

But granted that he wishes "Thomson" to be taken seriously: is the fate of the latter, after all, of such a nature as to claim any large amount of our sympathy, at a time when the Cubans and Armenians and Venezuelans have so nearly exhausted that emotion in the American breast? One might easily lash himself into indignation, like Homer's lion, at the thought of such a genius as "Thomson," compelled, in a college "narrow and closely sectarian," to teach Presbyterian Physics, or the Baptist theory of Taxation, or Methodist Chemistry, or any of the other well-known requirements of our sectarian schools; but the troublesome question will come to the front, Did not Thomson fall too easily? Since when has it been absolutely necessary to the integrity of a great man's devotion to Truth that he be furnished with a good professorship, a regular salary, and an ample supply of "elbow-room"? Why should a few years of unappreciated endeavor have made the descent into the Avernian regions of learned decadence so easy? Why was the brain of this all too faithless devotee to truth fired by no prophetic vision of

"Seven cities claiming Thomson dead,

Through which the living Thomson begged his bread?" No, men of "Thomson's" fibre will not do. In making up the army of reformers which is to bring light where "ignorance and all uncharitableness" have been, all such as he must be firmly rejected if the recruiting officers are to do their duty. We want no one in the ranks who is liable to desert when supplies run short.

But, as I said at the start, I am not clear in my own conceptions as to "Thomson," and I do not want to go so far as to accuse him of personal moral turpitude. I surrender him to the psychiatrist, who may detect some lesion of the brain; or to the student of heredity, who may find that the seeds of his decadence were born in him. In taking leave of him, my mind is inclined to settle down into an attitude of thankfulness that he was not elevated to any really important educational position before his inevitable tendency to decadence was made manifest.

W. H. JOHNSON.

##### A CARD FROM "THOMSON'S" BIOGRAPHER.

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

I beg leave seriously to assure W. R. K. and "a considerable class of your readers and contributors" that the alarming inferences in W. R. K.'s letter (DIAL, Oct. 16) are not, I am relieved to say, based upon a sound deduction, or upon data which could warrant an induction. The feverishness of Thomson's ambition and the low tone of his opportunity were purposely exaggerated to bring out the conflict necessary to such a bit of fiction.

W. P. REEVES.

## The New Books.

### MORE BOOKS ABOUT LINCOLN.\*

Just now there seem to be indications that the waning "Napoleonic revival" is going to be followed, in this country at least, by a wholesome corrective in the shape of a Lincoln revival. Hero-worship is harmless and even profitable, if only the object of one's cult be wisely chosen. Napoleon Bonaparte was as unquestionably the hero of his epoch, as Satan is the hero of Milton's poem; and it is pretty difficult to settle the balance of iniquity between them. But Abraham Lincoln was a hero of another type. The painters of great men, from Plutarch down, have shown us none worthier the esteem of a democratic age than the homely figure whose progress, chiefly through the force of high personal qualities, from the settler's cabin to the White House, may well strengthen the faith of those who believe that "government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

None of the volumes before us is or pretends to be very critical, or at all exhaustive. Loosely coherent collections, mainly, of personal reminiscences, they call for little in the way of general comment, and may best be allowed, so far as possible, to speak for themselves.

Mr. Noah Brooks's "Washington in Lincoln's Time" is a graphic, if rather fragmentary, volume of pen-sketches of war-time scenes and celebrities, interesting mainly for what the author tells us of Mr. Lincoln, whom he saw often and knew intimately. Mr. Brooks went to Washington in 1862 as a newspaper correspondent, and remained there up to Johnson's administration; and he now gives us the pith of what he observed and wrote during that time. His pictures of the then chaotic condition of the federal capital are fresh and full of interest. At once the seat of government and an armed camp on the fringe of battle, constantly menaced by the enemy and the prey of countless alarms and flying rumors, Washing-

ton was the focus where all that was peculiar to the times seemed to gather and concentrate. There, as perhaps nowhere else in the North, home-keeping citizens realized the war, its excitements, anxieties, and horrors. For months the flag of the Union floating over the Capitol had been challenged by the stars and bars visible on the other side of the Potomac; and later in the war Early brought the defiant colors once more within view from the city walls. Scenes of pathos and pity were not wanting. After the great battles that were fought near at hand, like Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, the way to Washington became a *via dolorosa*, along which streamed the dejected tide of fugitives returning from the front. Says Mr. Brooks:

"They arrived in squads of a hundred or more, bandaged and limping, ragged and dishevelled, blackened with smoke and powder, and drooping with weakness. They came groping and faltering, so faint and so longing for rest that one's heart bled at the piteous sight. Here and there were men left to make their way as best they could to the hospitals, and who were leaning on the iron railings or sitting wearily on the curbstones; but it was noticeable that all maintained the genuine American pluck in the midst of their suffering."

Hardly less moving than the plight of these directer victims of war was that of the anxious-faced strangers from the North who flocked to the city close upon the tidings of the great battles, in quest of friends or of news of friends who had been at the front. It was easy, says the author, "to recognize them by their distressed faces, their strangeness in the city, and their inquiries for hospitals or for the shortest routes to scenes made celebrated by some life-destroying fight." Close to the seat of war, the capital became a city of hospitals, one of the most unique of which was that improvised in the Patent Office museum. The author gives an amusing story of a visit he once made to this place with Mr. Lincoln. In making the round of the cots they paused beside a badly-wounded soldier who was apparently nearing the end of his pilgrimage, and to whom a benevolent lady had just then thoughtfully presented a *tract*.

"After she had gone, the patient picked up with languid hand the leaflet dropped upon his cot, and, glancing at the title, began to laugh. When we reached him, the President said: 'My good fellow, the lady doubtless means well, and it is hardly fair for you to laugh at her gift.' 'Well, Mr. President,' said the soldier, 'how can I help laughing a little? She has given me a tract on the "Sin of Dancing," and both of my legs are shot off.'"

Mr. Lincoln had a great relish for the rough

\* WASHINGTON IN LINCOLN'S TIME. By Noah Brooks. New York: The Century Co.

RECOLLECTIONS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN (1847-1865). By Ward Hill Lamon; edited by Dorothy Lamon. With portrait. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S SPEECHES. Compiled by L. E. Chittenden. With portrait. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN: Tributes and Reminiscences from his Associates. With Introduction by the Rev. William Hayes Ward. With portrait. Boston: T. Y. Crowell & Co.



wit of the soldiers, and met it cordially enough, —as in the following encounter with a profane mule-driver, whose unusually picturesque oaths had attracted his attention:

"Finally Mr. Lincoln, leaning forward, touched the man on the shoulder, and said: 'Excuse me, my friend, are you an Episcopalian?' The man, greatly startled, looked round and replied: 'No, Mr. President; I am a Methodist.' 'Well,' said Lincoln, 'I thought you must be an Episcopalian, because you swear just like Governor Seward, who is a church-warden.' The driver swore no more."

Besides his Washington pictures, and stories illustrative of Mr. Lincoln's private life and character, Mr. Brooks gives a brief account of two war-time National Conventions — the one at Baltimore, which renominated Lincoln, and that at Chicago, which nominated McClellan. There is a good deal of interspersed political comment and gossip; and while some of Mr. Brooks's stories strike us as being old acquaintances, the book is entertaining on the whole, and repays reading.

A well-edited and fairly continuous little volume of Lincoln reminiscences is "Recollections of Abraham Lincoln" (1847-65), compiled from various letters, memoranda, and published articles of Mr. Ward Hill Lamson, by his daughter, Miss Dorothy Lamson. As Mr. Lamson published, many years ago, a biography of Lincoln, it is presumed that these are additional reminiscences, found among his papers. We need scarcely say that Mr. Lamson was a competent witness in the premises. He was for years Mr. Lincoln's law partner and confidential friend; and when Mr. Lincoln went to Washington for his inauguration in 1861 he accompanied him, pursuant to the following characteristic summons:

"Hill, on the 11th I go to Washington, and I want you to go along with me. Our friends have already asked me to send you as Consul to Paris. You know I would cheerfully give you anything for which our friends may ask or which you may desire, but it looks as if we might have war. In that case I want you with me. In fact I must have you. So get yourself ready and come along. It will be handy to have you around. If there is to be a fight, I want you to help me do my share of it, as you have done in times past."

There was no beating about the diplomatic bush then, nor was there a month or so later, when Mr. Lamson was sent on a pacificatory mission to Governor Pickens of South Carolina. Secretary Seward opposed the mission — which certainly looked risky enough for Mr. Lamson, in view of the then disposition of the Carolinians towards "Lincoln hirelings." The President, however, at once clinched the matter:

"Mr. Secretary, I have known Lamson to be in many a close place, and he has never been in one that he didn't get out of. By Jing! I'll risk him. Go, Lamson, and God bless you! Bring back a Palmetto branch, if you can't bring us good news."

Mr. Lamson went; and it is needless to say that it was the palmetto, and not an olive branch, that he brought back from Charleston.

As we have said, the editor of this volume has succeeded in reducing her material to a fairly continuous narrative. It opens with an interesting chapter on Mr. Lamson's early association with Mr. Lincoln, first at Danville, then at Bloomington, and on the circuit; and thence passes on to the journey from Springfield to Washington, the inauguration, and so on through the two administrations down to the assassination, at which time the Marshal was journeying to Richmond on probably the last passport ever issued by Mr. Lincoln. On the eve of his departure Mr. Lamson, scenting danger, urged the President, in the presence of Secretary Usher, to go out as little as possible after nightfall, and on no account to go to the theatre. Turning to Mr. Usher, Mr. Lincoln said:

"Usher, this boy is a monomaniac on the subject of my safety. I can hear him, or hear of his being around, at all hours of the night, to prevent somebody from murdering me. He thinks I shall be killed; and we think he is going crazy. What does anyone want to assassinate me for? If any one wants to do so, he can do it any day or night, if he is ready to give his life for mine. It is nonsense."

Three nights later the speaker was shot, at precisely the place against which he had been warned by his Marshal.

Like many men of strictly practical training, Mr. Lincoln had a strain of superstition in his nature that contrasted oddly with his common views and practice. The very genius of strong sense and plain dealing in everyday matters, he set great store by dreams and omens, and seems to have long had a presentiment of his coming fate that amounted to certainty. A singular incident that greatly affected him occurred just after his election in 1860.

"It was the double image of himself in a looking-glass, which he saw while lying on a lounge in his own chamber at Springfield. There was Abraham Lincoln's face reflecting the full glow of health and hopeful life; and in the same mirror, at the same moment, was the face of Abraham Lincoln showing a ghostly paleness. On trying the experiment at other times, as confirmatory tests, the illusion reappeared, and then vanished as before. . . . To his mind the illusion was a sign, — the life-like image betokening a safe passage through his first term as President; the ghostly one, that death would overtake him before the close of the second."

The most startling incident of the kind was a dream Mr. Lincoln had just before his assassination; and however we may interpret the phenomenon as related to its sequel, the coincidence was certainly striking enough. Describing his dream to his wife, who had noted his disturbed appearance, Mr. Lincoln concluded:

"... Determined to find the cause of a state of things so mysterious, I kept on until I arrived at the East Room, which I entered. There I met with a sickening surprise. Before me was a catafalque, on which rested a corpse wrapped in funeral vestments. Around it were stationed soldiers who were acting as guards; and there was a throng of people, some gazing mournfully upon the corpse, whose face was covered, others weeping pitifully. 'Who is dead in the White House?' I asked one of the soldiers. 'The President,' was his answer; 'he was killed by an assassin.' Then came a loud burst of grief from the crowd, which awoke me from my dream. I slept no more that night; and although it was only a dream, I have been strangely annoyed by it ever since."

The volume contains a plentiful crop of Mr. Lincoln's quaint stories; and these, Mr. Lamon is careful to say, were usually told with a definite purpose—often a very serious one. It is pretty difficult nowadays to realize that Abraham Lincoln, the very soul of earnestness, sincerity, and public zeal, the man who perhaps above all others was penetrated with a realizing sense of the tragedy of his time and wrung by the spectacle of its blood and tears, was once freely denounced from press and platform as a vulgar jester, a "buffoon," who, while driving over the corpse-strewn field of Antietam, was heartless enough to call on a companion for a comic song. The Antietam story ran the rounds of the press, and "was repeated in the New York 'World' almost daily for three months." Marshal Lamon was the "companion" in question; and he devotes a chapter to clearing up the charge—which was, of course, only a newspaper "yarn" of rather more than the usual degree of mendacity. Mr. Lincoln himself used to style his stories "labor-saving contrivances"; which was a fair way of putting it. When he wished to light up a principle, or expose a fallacy, or reduce the proposals of a long-winded meddler to absurdity, all in the shortest possible order, he simply told a story in point, to the great saving of his own time and the nation's. The office-seeker was truly Mr. Lincoln's *bête-noire*. While the fate of the country was trembling in the balance, he was constantly being called on to solve some squabble over patronage, to put good men in office, while heeding at the same

time what he called "the shrieks of locality." Mr. Bryce, we remember, tells how a man, meeting Mr. Lincoln on the streets of Washington and noting with alarm his unusually worried and abstracted look, asked anxiously: "What is the matter, Mr. President—has anything serious happened at the front?" "No," replied Mr. Lincoln, wearily, "it is n't the war; it's that post-office at Brownsville, Missouri." Very humorous, if summary, was his disposal of a delegation that once called on him to solicit a place as commissioner to the Sandwich Islands for a friend whose chief stated qualification for the post was that he was in poor health and needed a balmy climate. "Gentlemen," said Mr. Lincoln, kindly but firmly, "I am sorry to say that there are eight other applicants for that place, and they are all sicker than your man." Second only to the office-seekers in vexatious persistency were the well-meaning meddlers who swarmed to the capital to tender their "views" to the President. Like sorrows, they came in battalions—scarcely a day passing without several delegations, loaded and primed for the edification or discomfiture of the Administration, presenting themselves at the White House. Some of them were committees of clergymen, who came to offer their strategical views, and to propose sweeping changes in the conduct of the war. Mr. Lincoln listened courteously to all; and once, when his patience was sorely tried by the cavils of some reverend gentleman from the West, he made the following notable reply:

"Gentlemen, suppose all the property you possess were in gold, and you had placed it in the hands of Blondin to carry across the Niagara river on a rope. With slow, cautious, steady step he walks the rope, bearing your all. Would you shake the cable, and keep shouting to him, 'Blondin! stand up a little straighter! Blondin! stoop a little more; go a little faster; lean more to the south! Now lean a little more to the north!'—would that be your behavior in such an emergency? . . . This government, gentlemen, is carrying an immense weight; untold treasures are in its hands. The persons managing the ship of state in this storm are doing the best they can. Do n't worry them with needless warnings and complaints. Keep silence, be patient, and we will get you safe across. Good day, gentlemen. I have other duties pressing upon me that must be attended to."

Miss Lamon's volume contains two portraits of Mr. Lincoln, one after a painting by Healy done in 1868, and one after a photograph of ten years earlier, together with several interesting documents in *facsimile*.

Mr. L. E. Chittenden's compact edition of "Abraham Lincoln's Speeches" is a useful

publication — the first attempt, we believe, at a handy separately-issued volume of selections from Mr. Lincoln's works. All of the speeches are worth reading, some are worth pondering, and one of them, certainly, ought to be engraved on the memory of every American who cares for his country and has faith in the theory and the future of popular government. Compared with the Gettysburg Address, half the "famous speeches" in the anthologies savor of fustian. Mr. Chittenden's book is small, but it is representative, and contains enough to convey a just idea of Mr. Lincoln's style and powers, as well as of his views on the great issues of the period. The selections range, in time, from 1832 to 1865; in quality, from the plain sense and homespun diction of his early speeches, to the condensed power and classic purity of the Gettysburg Address. The editor has furnished a brief biographical introduction, and there is a good frontispiece portrait.

It may be remembered that on the thirtieth anniversary of the death of Mr. Lincoln (April 4, 1895) the publishers of the New York "Independent" issued a "Lincoln number" of their journal, containing some forty brief papers on the Martyr President, by men who had known him, or had seen him under interesting conditions. This matter has since been published in book form, with the title "Abraham Lincoln, Tributes and Reminiscences from his Associates," and it forms an acceptable and informing memorial volume. The Introduction is by Dr. Ward, editor of the "Independent." The papers are critical, eulogistic, or anecdotal, according to the bent and standpoints of the respective authors. Among these we note Mr. George S. Boutwell, Dr. Henry M. Field, Mr. Daniel D. Bidwell, Senator Dawes, Dr. Theodore Cuyler, Hon. L. E. Chittenden, General Neal Dow, Grace Greenwood, etc. Senator Morgan of Alabama, once a general in the Confederate service, pays a thoughtful tribute to Mr. Lincoln, finding that his most conspicuous virtue as Commander-in-Chief of the Federal forces "was the absence of a spirit of resentment or oppression toward the enemy, and the self-imposed restraint under which he exercised the really absolute powers within his grasp." It is related that President Lincoln once said, in his quaint way, when about to sign the pardon of a man condemned to be shot for some breach of duty, that he didn't "believe shooting was going to do him any good." Nor did he believe harsh treatment was going

to do the South any good; and it is a commonplace of history that the bullet of the wretched Booth deprived the South of its best friend, and put back substantial reconstruction a decade or more. We are glad to note that it is the serious and grandly humane, rather than the humorous, side of Mr. Lincoln's character that stands out most prominently in this volume, which is a very acceptable addition to Lincoln literature.

E. G. J.

#### LEAVES FROM COLERIDGE'S NOTE-BOOKS.\*

Following almost immediately upon the publication of Coleridge's *Letters* (reviewed in *THE DIAL* of June 1, 1895), and the renewed interest in the poet's personality and writings which that work has awakened, the appearance of the "Anima Poetæ" is most timely. The present volume is a "collection of hitherto unpublished aphorisms, reflections, confessions, and soliloquies," made up from the note-books and pocket-books which Coleridge himself informs us were at times his "only confidants." More than fifty of these noteworthy books have been preserved, dating from as early as 1795 down to the poet's death in 1834; and although occasional extracts from these copy-books had been published, there yet remained a vast quantity of literary material of which no use had been made. It is from this source that Mr. Ernest Hartley Coleridge, the poet's grandson, has brought together a volume of prose selections, arranged as far as possible in chronological order, and extending nearly from the beginning of Coleridge's literary career down to the summer of 1828. The note-books belonging to the succeeding years (1828-34), the editor states, are devoted too largely to theological and metaphysical disquisition to be of any great interest to the general reader. Among the five or six hundred topics touched upon in this book, ranging in length anywhere from a single line to four pages, that delightful confusion of subject prevails which gives a work of this sort its greatest charm. One finds here allusions and figures, a sentence or a paragraph, which the poet stowed away for future use in some lecture, essay, or poem; brief passages on the more interesting of his daily experiences; estimates of the characters of his literary friends; thoughts on friendship,

\* *ANIMA POETÆ*: Selections from the unpublished Note-Books of Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Edited by Ernest Hartley Coleridge. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.



love, and marriage, subjects that deeply moved Coleridge's affectionate nature; bits of criticism of contemporary criticism, interlarded with statements of more general import; quotations from Greek, Latin, German, Italian, and English classics, with either critical or interpretive comment; suggestions for unwritten poems, nestling in among weightier and vaster metaphysical observations; the strangest of fancies beside the most prosaic of practical admonitions; and all these thoughts and fancies crowding each other to death, as Coleridge observes was always characteristic of his thoughts, thrown off in his most impassioned moments before the glow of the poet's imagination was cooled by the pruning care of the artist. The intimacy which one can have with one's note-book, but not at all times with one's friends, is felt on every page; and it is this, together with that subtle fineness of the breath and spirit of poetry, which is not seldom lost, or at any rate changed into a fineness of a different kind that often resolves itself into a classic coldness when put into more polished forms of verse and prose, that gives the work its unique value. The poet is not posing here:

" . . . What I have seen and what I have thought, with a little of what I have felt, in the words in which I told and talked them to my pocket-books, the confidants who have not betrayed me, the friends whose silence was not detraction, and the inmates before whom I was not ashamed to complain, to yearn, to weep, or even to pray!"

One may dip into the "*Anima Poetæ*" almost at random, and come upon striking passages. Not a few may be found to illustrate Coleridge's intercourse with his friends; take as an example this afterthought in which he records Hazlitt's anger on the occasion of an animated argument and then proceeds to protest against Wordsworth's nature-worship:

"A most unpleasant dispute with Wordsworth and Hazlitt. I spoke, I fear, too contemptuously; but they spoke so irreverently, so malignantly of the Divine Wisdom that it overset me. Hazlitt, how easily raised to rage and hatred self-projected! but who shall find the force that can drag him out of the depths into one expression of kindness, into the showing of one gleam of the light of love on his countenance? Peace be with him! . . . But, surely, always to look at the superficies of objects for the purpose of taking delight in their beauty, and sympathy with their real or imagined life, is as deleterious to the health and manhood of intellect as always to be peering and unravelling contrivance may be to the simplicity of the affection and the grandeur and unity of the imagination. O dearest William! would Roy or Durham have spoken of God as you spoke of Nature?"

Coleridge was at all times devoutly religious, and his faith, even when protesting against dogma, was pervaded by a gracious tenderness.

It was, however, as a conversationalist, or rather as a monologist entirely monopolizing the talk, that Coleridge exerted his greatest influence upon the men and literature of his time. "No talk," says Carlyle, "in his century or in any other, could be more surprising," and though he adds that it more often speeded "everywhither" rather than "anywhither," these discourses must have possessed an inimitable eloquence, flooded as they were by that wealth of intellectual light and drawn from those immense stores of information always at Coleridge's command. Much of this marvellous power was necessarily fleeting, and to all except a few it is even now become, like the voice and personality of a great actor who is of the past only, a mere tradition. But judged by the standards of the ordinary conversation, there was a certain inappropriateness about these talks, of which even Coleridge himself at odd moments was conscious, though he urges a nimeity of ideas, not of words:

"There are two sorts of talkative fellows. . . . The first sort is of those who use five hundred words more than needs to express an idea—that is not my case. . . . The second sort is of those who use five hundred more ideas, images, reasons, etc., than there is any need of to arrive at their object, till the only object arrived at is that the mind's eye of the bystander is dazzled with colors succeeding so rapidly as to leave one vague impression that there has been a great blaze of colors all about something. Now this is my case, and a grievous fault it is. My illustrations swallow up my thesis. I feel too intensely the omni-presence of all in each, platonically speaking; or, psychologically, my brain-fibres, or the spiritual light which abides in the brain-marrow, as visible light appears to do in sundry rotten mackerel and other *smashy* matters, is of too general an affinity with all things, and though it perceives the *difference* of things, yet is eternally pursuing the likenesses, or, rather, that which is common [between them]."

He elsewhere in less serious vein hints that his conversation was not always adapted to his listeners:

"Coleridge! Coleridge! will you never learn to appropriate your conversation to your company! Is it not desecration, indelicacy, and a proof of great weakness and even vanity, to talk to, etc., etc., as if you [were talking to] Wordsworth or Sir G. Beaumont?"

Another noteworthy feature of the book is the descriptive portion. Coleridge was not the close observer of nature that Wordsworth was, yet that association with the latter brought the former into a closer communion with nature is no more to be doubted than that the imagina-

tion of Coleridge had, in turn, just as perceptible an effect upon the poetry of Wordsworth. On the whole, it was the right side of nature of which the poet was fondest, the grander and sublimer rather than the simpler things of nature; but here, on the other hand, are two descriptive sentences quite in Wordsworth's own manner:

"The beads of thistle and dandelions flying about the lonely mountain like life,—and I saw them through the trees skimming the lake like swallows."

"The old stump of the tree, with briar-roses and bramble leaves wreathed round and round—a bramble arch—a forglove in the centre."

The Wordsworthian will at once compare the former of these with those lines in the poem "On the Naming of Point Rash-Judgment":

"And, in our vacant mood  
Not seldom did we stop to watch some tuft  
Of dandelion seed or thistle's beard  
That skimmed the surface of the dead calm lake."

Add to these passages one on the voice of winter:

"Now the breeze through the stiff and brittle-becoming foliage of the trees counterfeits the sound of a rushing stream or water-flood suddenly sweeping by. The sigh, the modulated continuousness of the murmur, is exchanged for the confusion of overtaking sounds—the self-evolution of the One for the clash or stroke of ever-commencing contact of the multitudinous, without interspace, by confusion. The short gusts rustle, and the ear feels the unlithe dryness before the eye detects the coarser, duller, though deeper green, deadened and not [yet] awakened into the hues of decay—echoes of spring from the sepulchral vault of winter. The aged year, conversant with the forms of its youth and forgetting all the intervals, feebly reproduces them, [as it were, from] memory."

It is too ambitious to hope for the "Anima Poetæ" any such popularity as that accorded to the "Table Talk," which in some particulars it closely resembles; but the book is justly entitled to a place among Coleridge's works, for it is here, above all, as its editor suggests, that the reader will be enabled "to form some estimate of those strange self-communings to which Coleridge devoted so much of his intellectual energies, and by means of which he hoped to pass through the mists and shadows of words and thoughts to a steadier contemplation, to the apprehension if not the comprehension, of the mysteries of Truth and Being." The student of Coleridge will thus, perhaps, be enabled to see the poet from a slightly different point of view than has hitherto been possible, and to the general reader the book will afford occasional journeys full of pleasantness.

Mr. Coleridge has provided the volume with an introduction, notes where necessary, and

very full indexes, which are absolutely essential in a work of this character. The work is, moreover, issued in a style uniform with the recent edition of the Letters, and the three volumes taken together make a valuable addition to Coleridgean literature.

TULEY FRANCIS HUNTINGTON.

#### THE PROGRESS OF GLACIAL GEOLOGY.\*

The progress of glacial geology has been so great since the publication of the earlier editions of Professor Geikie's "The Great Ice Age" that in the revision it has been found necessary to rewrite most of the volume. Even those parts which are not wholly rewritten are so modified that they read as if now written for the first time. Apart from the alterations which the studies of recent years have made necessary, the general scope of the volume has been enlarged and somewhat changed. Many of the minor changes in the volume are of much interest to geologists. While these need not be here detailed, they are of general interest because they furnish unmistakable proof that European and American interpretations of the phenomena of the glacial period are steadily approaching each other.

The parts of the volume which will prove to be of most interest outside of geological circles are those which deal with the question of the recurrence of glacial epochs, the cause of the glacial period, and the existence of man during the glacial period. According to the author, the sequence of events during the glacial period of Europe is as follows: (1) A glacial epoch, preceded by a period of increasing cold. At this time the ice filled the basin of the Baltic. The Alpine lands were swathed in snow and ice, and great glaciers came out from the mountains, making moraines on the low ground at their bases. The mountain regions of Britain were probably ice-clad, though of this there is no direct evidence. In France there were glaciers from the volcanic cones of Auvergne and Cantal, which descended so as to deploy upon the plateaus. (2) Then followed the first interglacial epoch. The southern part of the North Sea became land, and a temperate flora, comparable to that of England to-day, covered corresponding latitudes. A luxuriant deciduous flora occupied the valleys of the Alps, and

\* THE GREAT ICE AGE. By Professor James Geikie. Revised Edition. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

flourished at heights which it no longer reaches. (8) The first interglacial epoch was succeeded by a second glacial epoch. During this time the northern *mer de glace* reached its greatest extent. At the same time, the Alpine glaciers reached their greatest development; while in the other mountains of Europe, snow fields and glaciers came into being. (4) The dissolution of this ice sheet was followed by a second interglacial epoch. The climate of Northern and Central Europe again became temperate, a temperate flora and fauna replacing the arctic forms which first occupied the land after the ice disappeared. The plants which occupied Germany and the central plains of Russia at this time indicate a climate less extreme than that which now affects these regions. Toward the close of this epoch the climate became more rigorous. The amount of river erosion accomplished during this second interglacial interval was such as to testify to its great duration. (5) The diminution in temperature noted above culminated in the third glacial epoch, during which the development of ice was less extensive than in the second. The ice sheet of this epoch overwhelmed a large part of the British Islands, and spread itself widely upon the continent. As in the preceding epoch, the Scandinavian and British ice sheets were confluent. From the Alps great glaciers descended to the lowlands. (6) Eventually the ice of the third epoch disappeared, and temperate conditions succeeded. Of this change, the best evidence is furnished by the younger interglacial beds of the Baltic coast-lands. (7) The fourth glacial epoch succeeded the third interglacial. During this epoch the Lowlands of Scotland were submerged to a depth of a hundred feet. The Highlands of Scotland had their glaciers, which in places reached the sea. The Alpine glaciers flowed for long distances down the great valleys, but fell far short of the dimensions reached by those of the earlier epochs. From Scandinavia, the ice moved out, filling the Baltic sea, and extending south to the Baltic ridge of northern Germany. (8) Following the fourth glacial epoch there was a fourth interglacial epoch, when deciduous trees spread far north into regions where their congeners no longer flourish. At this time the Baltic was converted into a great lake. Submergence followed, and the Baltic became an arm of the sea, with a fauna indicative of a climate warmer than the present. (9) Climate conditions again became more severe, resulting in the fifth glacial epoch. During this epoch there were local

valley glaciers in the British Isles, the position of which shows that the snow-line in Scotland had an average height of 2500 feet. At this time, Scotland was about fifty feet lower than now. In the Alps, the fifth glacial epoch is recorded in the moraines of the second so-called "post-glacial" stage. (10) The fifth interglacial epoch was marked by the reëmergence of the land, and the retreat of the valley glaciers. Britain's area became wider than at present, but it is not known that connection was made with the continent. (11) During the sixth glacial epoch, Scotland was submerged twenty or thirty feet more than at present. The snow-line then stood at an elevation of something like 3500 feet in Scotland, and a few small glaciers existed in the more lofty mountains.

Several maps are given, showing the extent of the ice during the second, third, and fourth glacial epochs. During the second the ice reached its greatest extension. At this time, Ireland and Scotland and Wales were completely covered by the glacier ice, which reached essentially to the valley of the Thames in England. The ice of Britain and Ireland was confluent with that of the continent. On the continent the ice covered all of Holland, part of Belgium, all the lowlands of Germany, and a large part of Russia. It reached its most southern extension in the valley of the Dnieper, somewhat below latitude 50°.

Much of the evidence on which the distinctness of so many glacial epochs is based is somewhat technical. Without discussing the evidence, the conclusions reached by its perusal may be stated. There would seem to be no question as to the distinctness of the two epochs which are designated as first and second glacial. The only question which could arise in this connection is concerning the glacial character of the deposits which are referred to the first epoch. In favor of their reference to a glacial epoch, Professor Geikie seems to make a strong case. Between the deposits of the second and third glacial epochs, the "lower" and "upper" bowlder clays of England, there is a well-marked interglacial horizon. This horizon represents an interval during which the land surface of England was free from ice, and very considerably elevated. During the elevation, the climate changed from arctic to temperate, and the land surface became clothed with vegetation. Following this condition of elevation, and of climatic amelioration, there was a submergence of European lands to a limited extent, during which, or accompanying



which, the climate changed from cold temperate to warm temperate, and then to arctic. The arctic conditions finally brought on the second great ice sheet. Thus, a very considerable interval of time intervened between the "lower" drift of Britain and the "upper," and during this interval northern Europe experienced profound changes of climate and its lands suffered considerable changes of level. It is just such events as these, and especially the association of such events, which serve to differentiate epochs in geological chronology. The conclusions to which the evidence drawn from Great Britain leads are found to be as true for the continent as for the island, and to be based on an almost identical series of facts.

So far as Britain is concerned, the evidence on which the third glacial epoch is separated from the fourth seems to be much less conclusive. The evidence for the separation of the corresponding formations on the continent is stronger. On the continent, the third glacial epoch was separated from the fourth by a very considerable interval of time, during which the ice disappeared entirely from Germany, though it may have lingered in the Scandinavian mountains. Like its predecessor, this interglacial interval is marked by old soils and peat bogs now occupying the horizon between the deposits of the preceding and succeeding ice sheets. It is in these soils and peat bogs that remains of plants are found, which tell of temperate climate. The interglacial horizon is also marked by marine and fresh-water deposits, which were made after the deposition of the drift of the preceding ice sheet, and before the development of the next. The position of these beds shows that considerable changes of level took place during this interglacial interval, while their fossils indicate the non-glacial condition of the region at the time they were deposited. There is reason to believe that this interglacial interval was long, not only because the changes in climate and in the altitude of the land demand such a conclusion, but because there is specific evidence that the amount of river erosion accomplished after the preceding and before the following glaciation was great.

The evidence of three glacial epochs in northern Europe is not limited to the two lines noted above. The several sheets of drift, the second of which overlies the first, and the third of which overlies the second, are different in physical and lithological constitution. The different materials must have been gathered from different sources. This implies a difference in

the direction of the ice movements which formed the several beds of drift. The differences in direction indicated are very considerable — great enough to indicate that the centres of ice dispersion must have been very different at different stages of the ice period.

On the whole, the evidence seems strong for the separation of the second glacial epoch from the third, and of the third from the fourth, in Britain, in northern Europe, and in Switzerland. We are not prepared to follow Professor Geikie in the separation of the fifth glacial epoch from the fourth, and the sixth from the fifth. This separation is based on evidence which is far from convincing, if the word "epoch" is to retain the meaning which has been attached to it in this country. From the written page it does not appear that the fifth and sixth glacial epochs of Europe necessarily amount to more than considerable recrudescences of the ice which had been temporarily retreating. But even if these so-called epochs represent no more than minor advances of the ice, their recognition is a matter of some importance. It helps to emphasize what seems to be the fact in America as well as in Europe, that the glacial period was long and extremely complex. This is the conclusion to which detailed work on both continents seems to be surely leading.

The chapters of this work which deal with the drift of North America were contributed by Professor T. C. Chamberlin. They embody much that is new in the way of suggestion and classification. In these chapters Professor Chamberlin directs attention to the fact that the recorded history of glaciation must really begin with the records left by the ice during its maximum extension, for at that time the records of all preceding glacial history were largely destroyed or obscured. Any minor glacial epochs that may have antedated the greatest extension of the ice could hardly be expected to have left decisive records of themselves. After the maximum extension of the ice in North America, it is found that there was an interval when the ice retreated to a great but undetermined extent. Subsequently the ice advanced again, but reached a position less advanced than during the preceding epoch. While the great body of the first sheet of drift was either covered or worn away by the ice of the second advance, its outer margin was left uncovered. After the second advance, the ice was melted back again for a great but unknown distance. Subsequently it advanced a third

time, but again failed to reach the limit which it had attained in the preceding advance. Thus the margin of the second sheet of drift remained uncovered by the drift of the third advance.

Professor Chamberlin has proposed to name these several sheets of drift as other geological formations are named. Thus, the oldest sheet of drift, which is the only one present in Kansas, is to be known as the Kansan formation; the second as the East Iowan formation; and the third as the East Wisconsin formation. As now exposed, the Kansan formation occupies a belt of variable width along the outermost border of the drift. Theoretically, it should only fail where the ice of the second advance reached its earlier limit, or where it has been removed by erosion. The Kansan formation should underlie the East Iowan formation to the north, except where it was destroyed by the ice of the East Iowan (or some later) stage of glacial history. The exposed part of the East Iowan formation, so named because it is well developed in Eastern Iowa, and because it has been carefully studied in that region, occupies a belt north of the exposed edge of the Kansan formation; while the East Wisconsin formation lies still further to the north, sustaining the same general relation to the East Iowan formation that this does to the Kansan.

Because of the controversy which has arisen in America concerning the distinctness of glacial epochs, Professor Chamberlin judiciously refrains from all assertion concerning the degree of distinctness of these several formations. He does not even insist that they be referred to separate glacial epochs, but simply that these several formations be looked upon as marking distinct stages in the history of the ice period. These names may therefore be used, for the present, without raising the question of multiplicity of ice epochs. Whether these several formations represent distinct glacial epochs, or whether they represent sub-epochs only, must turn upon the meaning which attaches to the term *epoch*. Until geologists have agreed upon the exact meaning of this term, as applied to glacial history, there is likely to be no harmony of opinion concerning the question of one or many glacial epochs. In this connection, Professor Chamberlin says:

"If the ice age consisted of distinct glaciations separated by climatic conditions as genial as those of to-day, they might as properly be called periods as epochs of glaciation. If the intervals of ice retreat, whether they amounted to complete disappearances or not, were comparable to the post-glacial period in duration, in the amount of erosion, weathering, soil production, vegetal

accumulation, orographic movement, or other work done, or in the geniality of climate or the character of their life, they are surely entitled to be recognized as marking epochs. If the intervals fall notably short of this, it is doubtless best to regard them as marking episodes, rather than epochs. The need for recognizing them would still remain, however, if we are to decipher and delineate the intimate history of the Ice Age."

We suspect that many glacialists would not be willing to follow the above suggestion in full. We suspect that many of them would hold that an interval of deglaciation might fall "notably" short of the post-glacial interval, and still the re-advance of the ice constitute a separate glacial epoch, especially if the retreat and the subsequent re-advance of the ice were very considerable, and accompanied by climatic and orographic changes. If, for example, the ice retreated so far from its extreme position as to free the territory of the United States, and if, during this retreat, the region freed became temperate, a subsequent advance of the ice to the limit of the East Iowan formation might perhaps not improperly be regarded as a distinct glacial epoch, even if the deglaciation interval were notably shorter than the post-glacial epoch. Especially would this be true if the ice remained long in retreat, and if other events, such as changes of continental attitude, intervened. Even on the basis which Professor Chamberlin has proposed, there is in the minds of many geologists no doubt that at least two, and very likely three, distinct glacial epochs have affected the North American continent. A judicious reading between the lines makes it clear that this is Professor Chamberlin's own belief.

Concerning the cause of the glacial period, Professor Geikie appears to have changed his opinion since the earlier edition of his work appeared. In that edition Croll's astronomical hypothesis was advocated with apparently little hesitancy. In the present edition the discussion of the cause of the glacial period has been relegated to the end of the volume. This arrangement makes the chapter much less than heretofore an organic part of the volume, and it is distinctly pointed out that the general facts and relations of the drift are not dependent on any particular theory of glacial climate. While Professor Geikie still believes that Croll's hypothesis probably "contains a large element of truth," he does not regard it as a full solution of the vexed question. He further indicates that the complex drift phenomena of Europe "are evidence of a succession of changes too manifold, and perhaps occupying

too short a space of time, to be accounted for by the cause to which Croll appealed." Professor Geikie's final conclusion concerning the question, as expressed in his own words, is as follows: "The primary cause of those remarkable changes is thus an extremely perplexing question, and it must be confessed that a complete solution of the problem has not yet been found."

Concerning the relation of man to the glacial period, the conclusions of the volume have a special interest, since they represent a late view of the geological evidence relating to the antiquity of man. Professor Geikie's interpretation of the English cave deposits is as follows: (1) That man, and certain locally or altogether extinct animals, co-existed in England at some period of time; (2) that this period was of long duration; (3) that after occupying the caves for untold ages, the paleolithic man disappeared forever; (4) that the second or neolithic period of human occupation is wholly distinct from the paleolithic; it is widely separated in time and culture, and is accompanied by a distinct fauna and flora; (5) that, in general terms, continental cave deposits yield a body of evidence of a closely similar character. He finds, further, citing much evidence, that the cave deposits, the valley drift, and the glacial and interglacial gravels pertain to one and the same general period, and concludes that that period lies between the culmination of the second and third ice invasions.

ROLLIN D. SALISBURY.

#### ANOTHER SHORT HISTORY OF ENGLAND.\*

Among the numerous histories of England that are constantly appearing, a work by Professor Ransome demands more than passing attention. The author has already written "An Elementary History of England," "A Short History of England," and a series of lectures upon "The Rise of Constitutional Government in England." In addition, he is joint author with the Hon. A. H. Dyke Acland, M.P., of a very valuable handbook of English history. In view of the ambitious work before us, these writings may be regarded as preliminary studies.

There is a vast extent of history compressed

\* AN ADVANCED HISTORY OF ENGLAND, from the Earliest Times to the Present Day. By Cyril Ransome, M.A., Professor of Modern History in Yorkshire College, Victoria University. New York: Macmillan & Co.

between the covers of this volume, for paleolithic man in Britain and the fall of Lord Roseberry are its terminal pages. The whole field is divided by dynasties, into eight periods. According to the preface, the author aims to meet the wants of four classes of readers: (1) those wishing "to study in greater detail" special phases of English history; (2) teachers who may wish "a fuller and more developed treatment of events"; (3) university students; (4) the general public "who wish to have in their hands a handy but fairly full history to which they may turn for ready information or the historical points that crop up day by day in politics or conversation." We surmise that of these classes of readers, the first will be sadly disappointed; for the arrangement being chronological, one has to hunt from page to page in order to follow any special line of thought. This calls attention to the main defect of the book, which is that it lacks continuity; so much detail being thrown in, that the philosophy of the political development of a period is obscured. The history of England from Henry II. to Edward I. covers essentially a constitutional period — that of the so-called "Winning of the Charters"; but Mr. Ransome dwells upon events of that time with so much minuteness that the great generic causes and the large lines then laid are lost sight of. From an institutional point of view, Mr. Ransome's treatment of English history is very defective. The steady development of Parliament is not discernible throughout the period of its formation. The Star Chamber suddenly appears under Charles I., but no allusion makes us acquainted with its origin; and the same observation is true of the Privy Council. This failure to treat constitutional history as a thing apart from minor matters is a cardinal defect; for subjects like these are more likely to be the "special phases" of interest to most readers.

Naturally in so condensed a work, political history must occupy the largest space. Only where literature bears a close relation to politics, is it more than incidentally dealt with; and the same rule applies to manners and customs. In this way the author has secured more space than Mr. Gardiner, in his well-known handbook. This is increased by omitting illustrations also, much of the space thus saved being given — and more profitably — to maps (38) and genealogical tables (21).

Mr. Ransome is a very positive Englishman. For example, we are told that "probably the greatest event in modern history is the devel-



opment of the British colonial empire" (p. vii.). Unless he dates modern history from 1815, he will hardly be believed. The French Revolution, in comparison with this imperial fact, is styled "one of the epoch-making incidents of the world's history" (p. 855). If Mr. Ransome is right in his view of the importance of the British colonial empire, there is a poor outlook for the future, for it is asserted that "even now, with all our facilities of steam and electricity, a real knowledge of the wants and conditions of the colonies is rare" (p. 823). Some portions of the "History of England" are fuller and better than others. The account of the Roman occupation of Britain (pp. 15-16) implies too much to square with the subsequent account regarding Christianity in Britain (p. 26). The way in which the complete displacement of the Keltic-Roman inhabitants is accounted for is very novel:

"So ruinous had been the long struggle that the Celts could no longer occupy their former possessions, so that the land lay desolate. This last statement of Gildas supplies the key to much that has hitherto appeared obscure; for if the settlements of the English were made not in lands from which the Britons had just been driven, but in districts which had for some time lain waste, then the disappearance of the British race, with its language, customs, and religion, and its complete replacement by the English race, becomes perfectly intelligible and in strict accord with the only contemporary narrative that has come down to us" (pp. 22-3). But there are two defects in this view: In the first place, Gildas is a most unreliable authority; and, secondly, the evidence of topography and archaeology are ignored. Moreover, if the struggle had been so ruinous "that the Celts could no longer occupy their former possessions, so that the land lay desolate," how does Mr. Ransome account for the exceedingly slow progress of the English conquest? And, *obiter dicta*, why does he prefer the word "Saxon" to the more general term "English"?

On pp. 108-9 the reader is disappointed to meet with the usual account of the causes and results of the Crusades. It is the rankest sort of writing of history, to say, in this day, that the Crusades began in 1096, and that Peter the Hermit was the genius of the movement. When Mr. Ransome is writing narrative, he is at his best. The account of the preliminaries to the Hundred Years' War is excellent, though it is much—too much—to speak of that war as "an utterly unnatural feeling of hereditary hatred between the two countries" (p. 246). Exception might be taken, too, to the statement that "Henry Fifth himself believed thoroughly in the propriety of his demand" for

the French crown (p. 316). It is more than likely that Henry was desirous of a pretext for foreign war in order that he might secure himself more firmly in the hearts of the English people, for the title of the house of Lancaster to the throne was by no means clear. In dwelling upon the Hundred Years' War, it would be refreshing if English historians were less insular in their thinking. In English writings, the work of Bedford, since it lay in France, is assumed to have had slight influence upon England. Yet the reforms of Bedford in France, when regent for the infant Henry VI., are largely accountable for Charles VII.'s sudden awakening; he realized that if he were to recover France he must do so by counter-means of the same sort, which resulted in the French people rallying to the support of the crown, and the consequent expulsion of the English. French historians, although somewhat dazzled by the bright figure of Jeanne Darc, are better than English in appreciating the reciprocal influence of Bedford's reforms upon those of Charles VII.

Here and there a failure to be acquainted with late researches is betrayed in Mr. Ransome's work. The paragraph (pp. 225-6) devoted to William Wallace represents him as a hero of Scottish independence, and not a rebellious feudal vassal, as Mr. Freeman has shown. Again, we are told, in speaking of early English local government, that "a group of townships formed the *hundred*. . . . In the south, 'hundred' was the term usually employed; in the east Midlands and in Yorkshire, 'wapentake'" (p. 43). Yet in 1888 Canon Taylor showed that the evidence of Domesday goes to show, if it does not prove, that the wapentake was an administrative division comprising three "hundreds." Similarly, Mr. Ransome seems to be unaware (p. 400) that late research has shown that Clement VII. actually granted a bull of divorce between Henry VIII. and Katherine.

It may be unfair to judge a writer in a field in which his rival is the master, but the Puritan Revolution is very unsatisfactorily treated when compared with the account of Mr. Gardiner. There is next to nothing said of Cromwell's government; nothing at all of his major-generals; the massacre of Drogheda is slighted, and Cromwell's continental and commercial policy resolves itself into the deeds of one man—Blake. The author ventures to disagree with Ranke in respect of the character of Charles I.; while Charles II., on the other

hand, is said to have been "a man of consummate ability" (p. 642). Some other judgments may be questioned, — e. g., Dunstan is pronounced "the most remarkable English subject who lived before the Norman Conquest" (p. 65). How about Godwine? John is said to have been well-read, though his learning rests on the statement that he once borrowed a book from the abbot of St. Alban's, which Stubbs thinks of slender authority (p. 168). Shakespeare's delineation of Richard III. is accepted (p. 299). On p. 540 occurs the statement that "Pym was quite of opinion that Laud and Strafford had been engaged in a systematic plot, the one to overthrow Protestantism, the other parliamentary government. . . . This is now known to be a caricature of *Strafford's* real position." Are we, then, to believe that Laud seriously intended to overthrow Protestantism? The loss of Waterloo is attributed directly to Napoleon (p. 908). And, speaking of Napoleon, is there not a touch of irony in the allusion to the "beautiful and healthy" island of St. Helena (p. 910)? The statement has the sound of an Englishman's hereditary hatred of Bonaparte. So, also, Mr. Ransome's estimates of Castlereagh and Canning have a Tory ring (pp. 912, 936).

But criticism to be just must be relative, not absolute. The exceptions taken above have been in matters where there is room for honest doubt; and a good author always has prepossessions in his favor. Moreover, they are few in number compared with the amount of matter presented; the defects indicated represent proportionately a slight percentage of the narrative. For a book of information, presenting a clear, succinct narrative, Mr. Ransome's "History of England" will take rank with the best handbooks. To the public at large who wish to have a ready source of information as to facts — and facts are the body of history — it will commend itself. The correlation of these facts, what Guizot called the physiology of history, is less evident, and perhaps was not intended. The thoughtful reader in this case will dwell upon what he here reads; while in the case of the university and college student, the very absence of this element allows room for original force and suggestion; he must think for himself if he would understand.

At times, however, even in the domain of facts, Mr. Ransome is manifestly wrong. The most obvious example of this, to an American reader, at least, is the statement that "In 1861

a war broke out between the northern and southern sections of the United States. . . . The slave-owning States of the South viewed with apprehension the rise of an Abolitionist party in the North, and when Abraham Lincoln, an Abolitionist [!] was elected president, they declared their intention of seceding from the union" (p. 999). If a second edition of the "History of England" is called for, it is to be hoped that Mr. Ransome will first read the platform of the Chicago Republican Convention, and also Lincoln's first Inaugural. Moreover, he has yet to learn that the negroes were not freed, and could not be enfranchised, by an act of Congress (p. 1000).

A few minor errors may be pointed out, which are doubtless due to oversight: The peace of Wedmore was in 879, not 886 (p. 55); Cnut, not Harold, became king in 1017 (p. 75); Americans, at least, speak of Bunker Hill, not Bunker's Hill (p. 824); Louis XVI. was executed Jan. 21, 1793, not in February of that year (p. 860); the French Empire was declared in May, not December, 1804.

In style the narrative is plain and unvarnished, to the point of tediousness; it is hard reading; yet that, perhaps, is to be expected in a work of such condensation. But at times the language is careless. The average reader would infer an old English township and a borough to be governmentally wholly distinct from one another, owing to omission of the word "or" in the last paragraph on p. 41. Again: "When Tacitus wrote, few German tribes were ruled by kings, but kingship was universal among the English who had settled in Britain" (p. 46). One would infer that the English, when on the continent, were of two sorts — those who had kings and those who had not. Mr. Ransome's thinking is not always clear. We are told (p. 854) that from one point of view the French Revolution was "the abolition of mediæval feudalism"; from another, "the abolition of privilege," whereas the essence of feudalism was privilege. So, again, in the account of the States General of 1789, there is lack of definiteness of statement (p. 858); and on p. 866 the Spanish and Dutch fleets, in 1795, are suddenly found coöperating with France, though no reason is given for the fact. Perhaps, though, more has already been required than it is right to expect from an author seeking to compress the enormous space of two thousand years into a thousand pages.

JAMES WESTFALL THOMPSON.

## A NEW ARCTIC BOOK.\*

If the reader will look to his map of Europe, he will find lying off the far northwestern outskirts of Russia, in the Arctic Ocean, a considerable island named Kolguev. This Kolguev (pronounced Kol-guev) is so little known that the adventurous soul of Mr. Trevor-Battye, an English traveller of some experience, was drawn toward it with a view to exploration. "Whether those were right who had maintained that we should find it quite impossible to land at all; whether, if we did succeed in landing, we should discover a harbor where the Saxon might be secure; what birds, flowers, and mammals we should chance upon; whether we should find people there, or only a desolate and barren land,—in a word, the idea of the unknown, this it was which really attracted me, as it has attracted many before."

This ignorance was, however, in a degree unnecessary. If the author had taken down so common a reference book as "Chambers's Encyclopædia," he would have read under "Kolguef": "It is visited in summer by fur-hunters, and fowlers, who capture eider-ducks, swans, and other sea-birds that yield down. The only permanent inhabitants are a few Samoyedes." While Kolguev is not quite the *terra incognita* that Mr. Trevor-Battye would have us believe, yet it is sufficiently unknown to justify such an expedition as he undertook.

On the second of June, 1894, our author left Peterhead, Scotland, on the steam yacht "Saxon." The rather commonplace voyage is described in Chapters I.-V., which might easily have been omitted. In Chapter II. he puts this curious preface to his three-page description of Tromsø: "Many of my readers will know Tromsø and its surroundings far better than I, and can skip this next bit, which I simply take straight out of my journal as it stands." Surely what most readers would skip is just the thing to omit. The book-making traveller is often tempted to pad.

The reader will, then, miss nothing by waiving unimportant preliminaries, and begin with Chapter VI., where our author is set down on the lonely isle, and his real adventures begin. After six days of tramping, he succeeded in finding some of the native Samoyeds, and he lived with or near them for the next three

months. These people moved from pasture to pasture with their herds of reindeer, which subsisted chiefly upon lichens. When a party once stopped to bait the deer, he found that in ten minutes they ate "the lichen which lay around them without moving from where they stood." Although snow lay in patches all summer, yet flies and mosquitoes were sometimes very troublesome. Under record of July 19, he says: "The mosquitoes were bad today, and gnats were in clouds. I think the Samoyed name for mosquito is so good—'nyanink' they call it, from the noise and its stab. 'Nya' is its singing, and then 'nink,' and in goes its horrid stab."

The staple food of the Kolguev Samoyeds is the wild goose. Mr. Trevor-Battye gives a very interesting description of a "goosing." Thousands of wild geese were driven into a trap, and there despatched with clubs. They then hid them under fresh turf for a few days, and afterward prepared them for winter's use. Mr. Trevor-Battye learned many Samoyedic practices, but he never mastered their method of eating. "The Samoyeds held the food between their teeth, and with the other end in their left hand cut quickly upwards, with the knife close to their noses. We tried this, but not successfully. It requires much practice, because of your nose." Our author got on very well with his Samoyed acquaintance. He even succeeded in obtaining some of their idols, or *bolvans*, which they usually conceal with great care. But one of his successes was so discreditable that we wonder he records it. On his exploration of their Holy Hill, he was accompanied by a guide who kept sharp watch on his visitor. "I felt he had his eye on me all the while, for whenever I moved a hand towards the *bolvans* he turned quickly around with a cunning intelligence on his face. But I was one too many for him. For I offered him a cigarette which I had made from a leaf of my note-book. And while he was stooping down to light this, I managed to slip a small *bolvan* and the spoon into my pocket unperceived."

Mr. Trevor-Battye's description of the Samoyeds is fuller and closer than Mr. Jackson's account in "The Great Frozen Land," recently reviewed in THE DIAL (Sept. 16, '95), but on the whole they confirm each other. He finds the Samoyeds a simple, friendly people, of much ability in certain ways, and he resents the contrary imputations of other writers. "Why," he asks, "does Nordenskiöld put these Samoyeds at the bottom of the Arctic Mongol group?

\* ICE-BOUND ON KOLGUEV. A chapter in the exploration of Arctic Europe. To which is added a record of the natural history of the island. By Aubyn Trevor-Battye. With numerous illustrations by J. T. Nettleaship, Charles Wympier, and the author. New York: Macmillan & Co.



He makes them the lowest. And why does Carlyle, casting about for an instance of hopeless barbarity, pitch on the poor Samoyed? This book, if it shows anything, will surely reveal the Samoyed as an extremely intelligent man, far and away more so than the Red Indian."

The main part of this book may be cordially recommended to the general reader as an entertaining narrative of varied adventures and experiences. The style, as is apparent from our quotations, is very lively, but sometimes becomes careless and slangy. The book is provided with maps and scientific appendices, and is fully illustrated with interesting drawings by various artists.

HIRAM M. STANLEY.

#### RECENT ENGLISH NOVELS.\*

It must be admitted, curious as is the fact, that there are hardly half a dozen English novelists now living and to the manner born, whose work is as acceptable and as deserving of praise as that of a Dutchman of letters who has chosen to use the English language rather than his native idiom, and has learned to use it so effectively that he must be reckoned to all intents and purposes an English novelist. Those who indulge in dreams of a time when English shall have become the universal language may well find a happy omen in the fact that a foreigner, who might easily occupy the foremost place among his contemporaries in his own country, should be found willing to relinquish such an honor for the sake of enrolment in the English literary guild, and for the sake of the larger audience that he is thus enabled to reach. The case is almost, if not quite, unparalleled in nineteenth century literary history, for neither Oehlenschläger nor Dr. Brandes, neither Heine nor Tourguénieff, ever be-

came so completely naturalized in Germany or France, respectively, as "Maarten Maartens" has become in the republic of English letters. It is interesting to note, in this connection, the recent report that Sig. d'Annunzio has decided henceforth to write primarily for French rather than for Italian readers. Such cases, however, must at the best be sporadic; it will not frequently happen that writers of one country will have both the inclination and the ability to make of the idiom of another the chief medium of their expression. "My Lady Nobody," the latest novel of our Anglicized Dutchman, is one of the strongest novels of the season, although we are inclined to rank it a little below "God's Fool" and "The Greater Glory." It is without the thin veil of poetical allegory that gives so great a charm to those two books, although it is quite their equal in shrewd observation, genial humor, and sane envisagement of the relations of everyday life. The characters do not seem quite as sharply realized as they might have been—at least, some of them do not—and an uncertainty in the use of English idiom is now and then noticeable. But the book is a very human document, after all—for Dutch humanity is very much the same as any other—and does equal honor to the head and the heart of the writer.

Mr. Mallock, doubtless, would wish his latest work of fiction to be described as "a human document," and, indeed, he gave that very title to one of its predecessors. But the claim may be made for "The Heart of Life" only with some qualification. It is not so much essential humanity with which Mr. Mallock deals as humanity of exotic or morbid type. This, at least, must be said of the three or four characters upon which he has spent the most pains. And there is throughout the work a disagreeable streak of perverted feeling, an envisagement of the ethical problems of sex, that needs so ugly a word as "nasty" to give it adequate expression, and that vitiates the atmosphere of the entire book. This is no new thing with Mr. Mallock, as readers of his earlier books do not need to be told. Having lodged this needed caveat, we will hasten to do justice to the better qualities of the novel in question. So careful a work, written in so graceful and cultured a style, is calculated to give considerable pleasure to readers of taste, in spite of the subtle immoralities of its conception. There is a well-bred air about it all, and a command of felicitous phrase, that bespeak attention and interest. Particularly in the delineation of the Countess Shimna does the writer display his best literary qualities. She is one of those fascinating foreign women in whom he delights, and she is presented with a poetical investiture that completely captivates the on-looker and wins for her his instant sympathies. The character of Pole, likewise, is built up from within rather than from without, and wins respectful sympathy. Into this latter character Mr. Mallock has put no little of himself—a

\* MY LADY NOBODY. By Maarten Maartens. New York: Harper & Brothers.

THE HEART OF LIFE. By W. H. Mallock. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

AN IMAGINATIVE MAN. By Robert S. Hichens. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

JOAN HASTE. By H. Rider Haggard. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

THE EMANCIPATED. A Novel. By George Gissing. Chicago: Way & Williams.

NOT COUNTING THE COST. By Tasma. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

A SET OF ROGUES. By Frank Barrett. New York: Macmillan & Co.

WHEN CHARLES THE FIRST WAS KING. A Romance of Osgoldorpe, 1632-1649. By J. S. Fletcher. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

THE STARK-MUNRO LETTERS. Edited and arranged by A. Conan Doyle. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

FROM THE MEMOIRS OF A MINISTER OF FRANCE. By Stanley J. Weyman. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

remark suggested not so much by Pole's specific attitude toward socialism as by the whole tenor of his life and mental habit. As for Pansy—the other woman who plays ducks and drakes with his heart—we must give her up as quite unintelligible.

Mr. R. S. Hichens, whose amusing skit "The Green Carnation" stirred up the menagerie of the decadents a few months ago, has now produced a serious piece of fiction. "An Imaginative Man" may be described as a study in morbid psychology that ends in nothing less than insanity. The hero is a man of high-strung and sensitive nature, self-centred and cynical, who, married to a pretty and commonplace woman, takes her to Egypt for a winter vacation. He sees the Sphinx for the first time in his life, and is thereby inspired with an absorbing passion. He cannot tear himself away from the fascinating presence of the mysterious statue, and finally, in a mad ecstasy, dashes out his brains against its base. The story sounds bald, and even ludicrous, in this outline, but it is not so in the reality. The steady encroachment of madness upon his intellect is subtly worked out, and a sombre poetry invests the successive scenes of the drama, inviting to anything rather than mirth. We must say, however, that about the minor episodes of the story there is something repulsive, in spite of the imaginative quality of it all; and that the night scene in Cairo, with all its force and vividness, is a thing that could have no place in a work of serious and wholesome art.

Careful characterization—without which no work of fiction can expect to be taken seriously—has not usually been looked for in Mr. Rider Haggard's novels. In this respect, "Joan Haste" is a marked advance upon any of its predecessors, for it introduces us to three or four characters which are delineated with fairly satisfactory art. This is particularly true of Sir Richard Graves, of whom we receive a really vivid impression, and who thinks and acts in a consistent way throughout. The new novel has nothing to do with strange scenes or peoples; it gets along without the accessories of mystery and carnage in which the author has been wont to delight; it is simply an English story, dealing in semi-melodramatic fashion with a few hackneyed themes. It does not prepossess one in its favor to learn that it turns upon the betrayal of a young girl by an English nobleman, upon the self-sacrifice of the girl—Camille-fashion—at the instance of an agonized parent's pleadings, and upon the discovery when too late that she is the heiress to a great property. Yet it is undeniable that Mr. Haggard has made an interesting tale out of these situations, and that we forget at the time of reading how utterly hackneyed they are. The story loses in vigor and reality toward the end, and the winding up of its complications is excessively bald and unconvincing. Nor are the characters all well done, for that of Samuel Rock is about as grotesque and unreal as any that is ever met with in the most posteros sort of fiction.

"The Emancipated," although just published in the United States, is not, we understand, Mr. Gissing's latest novel. We are happy to say that the unqualified condemnation we felt bound to bestow not long ago upon a recent production of that writer is by no means to be dealt out to the volume now before us, which impresses us as the best of Mr. Gissing's novels that we have read. It is certainly untainted by the vulgarity characteristic of so much of his work, and contains studies of a number of men and women in whose company it is pleasant to be. Then there is the background of Southern Italy to cast a sort of glamour over the pages. It would be a poor book indeed that could not attract by the frequent use of such magic names as Capri, Paestum, and Amalfi. Mr. Gissing presents us with several types, or rather degrees, of intellectual emancipation, and his moral appears to be that such a thing as too much freedom is quite possible. An undercurrent of rather bitter feeling about English Puritanism runs through the book, and the author seems to out-Arnold Arnold upon this subject. The best character-study is that of the woman who outgrows the Puritan environment of her early years, and discovers that the world offers a larger air and a freer view than may be found in the dissenting society of a stagnant English town.

The lady who writes over the signature of "Tasma" is usually entertaining, although her work never rises far above the plane of mediocrity. There is considerable variety of character and incident in "Not Counting the Cost," and a somewhat questionable moral. The heroine, that is, does not actually violate the conventional code, but is saved from so doing by a series of fortunate accidents, rather than by a resurgence of principle strong enough to defy temptation. We are somehow left with the impression that it would not have been very wrong for her to assure her family a comfortable existence at the cost of her own honor. The story of this little group of Tasmanians, self-exiled in Paris, and struggling against heavy odds for a subsistence, has much pathetic verisimilitude, and seems to be told from first-hand knowledge of the main conditions.

The title of Mr. Frank Barrett's latest novel will best illustrate how wide a departure has been taken from the conventional lines of even the romance of adventure. It runs as follows: "A Set of Rogues; *to-wit*: Christopher Sutton, John Dawson, the Señor Don Sanchez del Castillo de Castellaña, and Moll Dawson, their wicked conspiracy, and a true account of their travels and adventures, together with many other surprising things, now disclosed for the first time, as the faithful confession of Christopher Sutton." In other words, Mr. Barrett has given us a very good imitation of the picaresque fiction of the seventeenth century, with a suitable archaism of diction, and a fine sense of the appeal of mere reckless adventure to the unsophisticated imagination. We read this story, just as we read its pro-

totypes of two centuries ago, with sheer interest in the doings of the persons concerned, and with little care for the morality of their actions. They start out to gain fraudulent possession of an estate, and we cannot help hoping that they will succeed, so unmoral is the atmosphere of the tale. When they do eventually accomplish their purpose, we rather applaud them, and are reduced to so wicked a frame of mind that we hope they will not be found out. Later in the narrative, they exhibit marked compunctions of conscience, by no means in keeping with their characters, and we cannot but think that the intrusion of this note is an artistic error. Lamb's well-known theory of the conventional character of the Restoration drama applies equally to works of this class, and is one of the profoundest truths to which that great critic ever gave expression. Ethical motive has no place in a story like this, and one may rejoice in the turpitude of such a "set of rogues" without the slightest danger of falling out of moral equilibrium. We have in this book one of the best stories of adventure that recent years have brought to our reach.

"When Charles the First Was King" is a historical novel in the manner of Dr. Doyle's "Micah Clarke," but rather more artificial and laborious than that striking work of fiction. It is told in the first person by an eye-witness of some of the stirring events that led up to the Commonwealth, and its incidents are seen in the retrospect of old age. The narrator was not a soldier, except for a brief time and as it were by accident, but he was mixed up in the great fight at Marston Moor, and met Cromwell face to face. Historical study of the period and a close familiarity with the Yorkshire country have stood him in good stead, and his story, if not wildly exhilarating, is at least well-planned and interestingly told.

Dr. Conan Doyle's latest publication will not add to his reputation. It is in form a series of letters addressed by a young English surgeon to a friend in America, descriptive of the struggles of the former to gain a professional foothold and to attain mental equilibrium in matters of philosophical and religious concern. This double motive is at work in every chapter of the correspondence, and the juxtaposition is utterly incongruous. Most readers will skip the moralizing (which is of a rather callow sort) and fix their attention upon the very slender thread of the story, only to be disappointed in the pettiness and poverty of the narrative. The one serious attempt at characterization is the singular Cullingworth, whose preposterous antics may be found amusing, but who is no more a real living figure than any wooden puppet worked by strings. If Dr. Doyle cares anything for his literary standing, he will abandon the sort of pot-boiling of which this book is a flagrant example, and will seek to regain public confidence by means of the historical novel, of which he is an undoubted master.

Mr. Wyman is better advised in this respect

than Dr. Doyle, and does not stray from the field in which he has won a well-deserved success. His passages "From the Memoirs of a Minister of France" are a series of imaginary episodes in the life of the Duc de Sully, running from about the period when his royal master had concluded that Paris was worth a mass, to the inception of the Great Design, and the foul crime that left that gigantic plan only a dream. These chapters display inventive powers of a high order, and show their author's remarkable insight into his chosen period of history. Each of them is a story complete in itself, yet the character of the great Minister links them together into one chain. They are more than interesting; they are true to the essential facts of history, without for a moment becoming dull or pedantic. WILLIAM MORTON PAYNE.

#### BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

*Glimpses of  
Old Japan.*

Early in the seventies, a familiar figure at the New York Union Club was a stately, well-mannered, neatly-dressed gentleman of seventy odd years, pleasantly known to younger *habitués* as the "Old Tycoon." This gentleman—who (to quote his nephew, Professor Brander Matthews) "disliking the noisy, fast, stock-exchange element of the club," chose to pass his time "talking sense" at one end of the room with the few, while the many "talked dollars" at the other—was Townsend Harris, America's first Envoy to Japan, a man who did perhaps as much as any individual toward unsealing the Hermit Kingdom to the commerce and ideas of the West. Among the foreign diplomatists who assisted in that work, it is Mr. Harris's distinction to have left by far the kindest impression on the minds of the Japanese. He is remembered by them to-day as "the nation's friend." Says the native writer, Nitobé: "The mission of Perry was that of a pioneer; that of Harris, a sower. The duty of one was to force a barred door open; that of the other was to keep it open. . . . If an ambassador, according to Wotton's definition, 'is an honest man sent abroad to lie for his commonwealth,' Harris was no diplomatist. If, on the contrary, an American minister to an Oriental court is a representative of the moral principles of the great Christian Republic, Harris deserves the name in its best sense." The volume before us, "Townsend Harris, First American Envoy to Japan" (Houghton), edited by Mr. Wm. Elliot Griffis, consisting of Mr. Harris's Japanese diary, together with some complementary biographical and historical chapters by Mr. Griffis, is a very timely and acceptable book. Since the outbreak of the late war in the East, competent writers have shown us in ample detail the New Japan, politically a modern power, and fast outgrowing her period of tutelage; but the New Japan cannot be understood, still less the nation's long and heroic effort in the



way of self-transformation be appreciated, without attaining a notion of what Japan was at the time the process of change began. To this end, readers will find the present work decidedly helpful. The journal extends from August 21, 1856 (the date of Mr. Harris's landing as Envoy at Shimoda), to February 27, 1858, when the hard-won treaty opening the Japanese ports was ratified. The obstacles he encountered in the way of native insularism, and official duplicity and obstruction, seem almost incredible in view of the Japanese character of to-day. The journal is largely a record of a long and exasperating contest with native officialdom—a process of alternate wheedling and “bluffing” on the part of the Envoy against a race of “diplomats” who for “ways that are dark and tricks that are vain” showed themselves no whit behind their Chinese counterparts, and would have easily distanced the comparatively ingenuous Talleyrands and Metternichs of Europe. Once, the badgered Envoy writes plumply, “They are the greatest liars on earth”—a statement somewhat modified later on. It was not until September 25, 1857, that Mr. Harris received permission to go to Yedo to present the President's letter to the Mikado in person—a preliminary step to a second stage of tedious diplomatic fencing with the experts of the native Circumlocution Office. The battle, however, was finally won; and in 1859 Mr. Harris's services were rewarded by the appointment, on President Buchanan's nomination, as Minister Resident of the United States to Japan. He resigned in 1861, reaching America to find the nation he had served so well rent by civil war. Says Mr. Griffiths: “It was while returning home, in an agony of fear for the safety of the Union, that the loyal American, Townsend Harris, was directly and personally insulted by the Captain of a British mail steamer flying the Confederate flag. Englishmen often wonder whether Americans ‘hate’ them, and why.” Perhaps the captain thought reprisals were in order for our usual ante-election performances in regard to the Irish Question. Mr. Harris's diary forms an interesting and valuable document, and the editor has put it in excellent shape for the use of general readers.

*The Japan  
of to-day.*

The Chino-Japanese war has made it painfully evident that the fanciful notions long-current regarding the “child of the world's old age” stand badly in need of revival. To go on patronizingly viewing Japan as a clever child mimicking the ways of its elders, and amusing itself for a space with its toy army, toy fleet, toy railroads, telegraph, etc., is out of the question since Yalu and Port Arthur. Japan herself has all along resented the unflattering flattery ladled out to her by amiable visitors like Sir Edwin Arnold; and it is now plain that what may be termed the globe-trotter view of her must be replaced by something more actual and prosaic. To this end we know of no book at once more concise, practical, and comprehensive than Mr. J. Morris's

“Advance Japan” (Lippincott). The author was long connected with the Tokio Department of Public Works, and his pages have naturally a slightly statistical flavor. He aims to call attention to the more serious side of the Japanese, to their solid qualities of perseverance and ambition of excelling, and particularly to the strong mechanical bent which has contributed largely to raise them to their present position. He endeavors to show that the Japanese, so far from being, as popularly supposed, essentially a race of clever copyists with “a genius for assimilating,” have a marked turn for initiative; and that they are already inventing and developing from their acquired standpoint on lines peculiarly their own. To select a striking if rather questionable example, the Murata rifle used by the Japanese forces, and one of the most destructive and efficient weapons extant, is a native invention. An idea of the staple matter of the volume may be gathered from such chapter-headings as “Administration,” “Natural History,” “Dress, Diet, and Manners,” “Mines and Minerals,” “Armaments,” “War with China,” “Colonization and Trade,” “The Future of Japan.” Each chapter is a compact summary of its subject-matter, from a point of view intimated in the rather flamboyant title of the volume. Mr. Morris is a decided Japanophile; and while his facts are undoubtedly accurate, we think it is to be regretted that he has not toned down his somewhat optimistic views and forecasts with a tincture of the frank criticism and admonition that Japan just now peculiarly needs. She has had applause and flattery enough to spoil a less practical people. Carlyle, we remember, getting impatient of the prolonged chorus in praise of George Washington, once grimly announced his intention “to take George down a peg”; and there is possibly a growing number of those who await with interest the candid soul who shall do the like by Japan. As to the late war, it is quite true that, as Mr. Morris says, Japan “thrashed her enemy within an inch of her life”; but the exploit would seem to be, on her friends' showing, largely exaggerated. It does not seem to occur to the recent writers who, on one page, hold up the Chinese army to scorn as an “unorganized mob,” and laud the Japanese army as a “magnificent fighting-machine” on the next, that they are thereby showing their idol's victory to have been a hollow affair relatively, and a poor criterion of what Japan might be expected to do if confronted in the field by a “fighting-machine” on a footing with her own. Mr. Morris has something to say of Japan's past history; and he sensibly scouts the popular error that she has put on Western civilization like a garment—miraculously transforming herself, as it were, overnight, on the French plan in '89. As the French Revolution smouldered for a century before breaking into flame, so Japan's startling changes in 1867-8 were due to the final upheaval of a political system long undermined by natural agencies. Japan too had, if on a narrower and

more local scale of doctrine, her *philosophes*, her volunteers of the pen, her Rousseaus, Diderots, and Condorcets, who riddled the time-worn fabric of feudalism with solid bolts of fact and reason, as it tottered to its fall. The present volume contains a number of plates, including some interesting charts and cuts of naval and military engagements in the late war.

*Mogul Emperors of Hindustan.*

Dr. Edward S. Holden's informing book on "The Mogul Emperors of Hindustan" (Scribner) may be generally described as a mosaic of well-chosen extracts from the best native and foreign authorities. The author's own rather slender contribution to the text is creditable and scholarly, and serves to give it some degree of narrative consistency. The chief authorities consulted are the Memoirs of the emperors themselves, which are freely quoted; the standard histories of Elphinstone, Malcolm, Erskine, Price, Hunter, and Howorth; the records of early missions and voyages; the translations of the native historians, by Sir Henry Elliot, Professor Dawson, and Professor Blochmann. Chapter VIII., on "The Ruin of Aurangzeb," is a reprint of Sir William Hunter's fine sketch of the downfall of the last great Mogul emperors. The present author has not essayed to give the history, or even a continuous historical study, of the reigns in question, but rather, as he says, "to present such views of the personages involved as an intelligent reader of the histories themselves might wish to carry away." This aim seems to us to be amply fulfilled. The work opens with a concise account of Tamerlane (in which it is made clear that Marlowe knew little beyond the truculent side of his Scythian Shepherd's nature), thence passes on to the reigns of Babar, Humayun, Akbar, Jahangir, the Empress Nur-Mahal, Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb, and closes with an Appendix comprising a list of the various conquests of India, beginning with Alexander's, and ending with Babar's, in 1525. There is also a useful chronological and genealogical table. There are a number of curious illustrations, mainly portraits of the Mogul rulers, many of them from the originals in the British Museum, and a few from miniatures belonging to the author. By thus selecting and putting together in compact shape information hitherto so widely dispersed and difficult of access, Dr. Holden has done general readers a real service.

*French royalty in the days of the Second Empire.*

Miss Anna L. Bicknell's graphic papers in "The Century Magazine" on "Life in the Tuileries under the Second Empire" have been issued, by the Century Co., in a handsome volume. Miss Bicknell was the English governess of the daughters of the Duchesse de Tascher de la Pagerie, the daughter-in-law of the Empress Josephine's first cousin who was installed with his household in the imperial residence throughout the Second Empire. On the friendliest terms with the family of her charges,

Miss Bicknell was an actual inmate of the Tuileries, seeing the Emperor and Empress almost daily, and meeting familiarly the members of their immediate *entourage*. She is thus enabled to paint for us in minute and familiar detail royalty *minus* its state robes and formalities. A warm admirer of the Emperor, she dwells on his unaffected gentleness and amiability, his unfailing courtesy to all, from minister to lackey, giving many anecdotes illustrative of these traits. Toward Eugénie she is less friendly; the estimate of her, as of her husband, tallying closely with that of M. Paul de Lano, whose opinion we have just cited. Portraiture and anecdote form the staple of the volume, which is well written and commendably free from questionable gossip and "revelations" of the baser sort. Of the little Prince Imperial, "a pale, grave child," yet with his due share of a boy's turn for mischief, some humorous stories are told—none so humorous, however, as an accompanying portrait, representing him (at about five) clad in the uniform of the Old Guard, and nearly extinguished by a bear-skin shako that might have adorned one of his grand-uncle's *groggnards*. Alas, the brief humors of the ill-starred Prince's childhood merge into pathos when one thinks of the boyish figure, a few years later, stretched cold and stark on the turf of distant Zulu-land—the terrible assegai wounds all in *front*, for he died facing his foes, as became a scion of the great Emperor. "When he saw," said the Zulus who had slain him, "that he was forsaken and could not escape, he turned on us like a young lion"; and an eye-witness thus describes the finding of the body: "He was lying on his back. His head was so bent to the right, that the cheek touched the sword. His hacked arms were lightly crossed over his lacerated chest, and his face, the features of which were nowise distorted, but wore a faint smile that slightly parted the lips, was marred by the destruction of the right eye from an assegai stab."

*An apologist for Napoleon III.*

M. Pierre de Lano's "Napoleon III.," the second volume in the "Secret of an Empire" series (Dodd, Mead & Co.), shows an advance in serious historical and personal interest over its rather gossipy and sensational predecessor. The author is as favorably disposed toward the Emperor as he was unfavorably toward his wife—who, supposing M. de Lano's account of her to be measurably true, was not only a cold wife and mother, a fickle friend, and a *parvenue*, but (as the instigator and fomentor of the German war) a grave state criminal as well. M. de Lano's portrait of Napoleon III. is pathetic and engaging. In his pardonable admiration for the Emperor's private character, he endeavors, with some plausibility, to show that the iniquitous *Coup d'Etat* of 1851 was virtually a revolution, in which its reputed author is to be regarded rather as a semi-passive protagonist, who, the sport of destiny, was borne resistlessly on by the current of events,

and partly forced to enact his questionable rôle. The plea seems to us decidedly more ingenious than convincing. The volume closes with a spirited account, the details of which will be new to most readers, of Eugénie's flight from Paris after Sedan, under the protection of the American dentist, Dr. Evans. The affair throughout strikingly recalls the historic flight to Varennes, the Doctor's too-sumptuous carriage taking the place of the ill-starred *berline*, and the little town of Evreux, where the fugitives were recognized and stopped by a mob, only lacking a Drouet and a Mayor Sausse to have fairly completed the parallel. The book is graphic and piquant, and repays reading.

*The last voyages of Napoleon.*

An attractive volume entitled "Napoleon's Last Voyages" (Lippincott) comprises the diaries, first of Admiral Sir Thomas Usher, who conveyed Bonaparte to Elba on board the "Undaunted," and, secondly, of John R. Glover, Secretary of Rear-Admiral Cockburn, who conveyed him to St. Helena on board the "Northumberland." We suppose these documents are authentic; but it is to be regretted that the editor has left us in the dark as to their history, and as to whether they have or have not been before published, entire or in part. There is a note, however, appended by Mr. Glover to his diary, stating that the same was kept for his own gratification, and particularly requesting that anyone into whose hands it may fall shall not copy or print it. How long this request was obeyed, we are not told. The editor's contribution to the volume consists of a few not indispensable notes, and some rather superfluous facts as to Admiral Usher, whose portrait is also thrown in. The journals themselves, especially Mr. Glover's, are very interesting. On the voyage to St. Helena, Napoleon seems to have conversed about himself, his past, his friends, and his rivals, with astonishing freedom; and Mr. Glover's notes on the habits and appearance of the royal captive are fresh and graphic. An interesting feature of the volume is the portraits of the Emperor—chance sketches, several of them, showing him as he appeared at the time, and in characteristic attitudes.

*Syrian history, archaeology, and travels.*

Dr. William Wright's comely volume entitled "Palmyra and Zenobia" (Thomas Nelson & Sons) is about evenly compounded of history, archaeology, and travels. In the way of history, the author naturally does not attempt to add much to what the early historians have told us of Zenobia's disastrous conflict with the Romans; but he has nevertheless availed himself to some extent of current popular traditions, a source to which he inclines to ascribe more weight than his predecessors have done. "In a bookless land," he says, "traditions are carefully preserved among a people who talk and listen, but do not read, and the wonderful story of the Sitt Zeinab (or Lady Zenobia) is scarcely more myth-

ical on the lips of the Palmyrans and Bedawin, than is that of Zenobia Augusta in the pages of Trebellius Pollio, Zosimus, and Vopiscus." The explorations and incidents recorded are the fruit of a nine years' sojourn in Syria; and as the writing was done on the spot, partly in the saddle and partly in the tent, it is unusually fresh, crisp, and full of local color. Half the volume is devoted to the ruins of Palmyra and the story of Zenobia, and the remainder to travels and adventures in Bashan and the desert. The illustrations are profuse, and of much archaeological interest.

*Sheridan as a "Great Commander."*

The latest volume in the "Great Commanders" series (Appleton) is a life of General Sheridan, which was completed by the late General Henry E. Davies only a month before his death. The author served under Sheridan during the whole of his Eastern command, and admires him most heartily; but the book has little of the vivacity that personal acquaintance and experience might have given it. From the number of its details, it fails to make upon the reader the impression that a more artistic grouping of the wonderfully interesting facts of Sheridan's career might make exceedingly vivid. It is a solid piece of work, showing painstaking labor, and may be relied on as a history of that part of the war in which Sheridan was engaged. The special interest lies in the chapters describing Sheridan's reorganization of the cavalry forces of the army of the Potomac against the strenuous opposition of General Meade, his brilliant campaign in the Shenandoah Valley, and his even more brilliant work in heading off Lee's army and making its capture inevitable. This brief narrative shows that Sheridan's success was not merely that of a dashing trooper, but that he possessed the solid qualities of a great military leader,—caution, power of combination, quickness in seeing and seizing an advantage, personal attractiveness, and power of winning the confidence of his troops.

*Lord Nelson's career and character.*

The Life of Nelson written for the "English Men of Action" series (Macmillan) by Mr. J. K. Laughton is a straightforward narrative of the career of England's brilliant naval hero. The author indulges in no fine writing, and the first half of the book is a little heavy; but when the story of Nelson's achievements in the wars of the French Revolution is reached, there is no lack of life, for the events described are such as turn the current of history and change the destinies of nations. The tone of the book is sympathetic yet judicial. While the greatness of Nelson's deeds is acknowledged, and the lovable qualities of the man and officer, and his genius as a naval commander, are fully described, the other side of the hero's character is not hidden. His disgraceful relations with Lady Hamilton, his vanity and jealousy and insubordination, are set forth fully enough to give a true portrait.



## BRIEFER MENTION.

Mr. M. J. Knight has prepared, in two volumes, "A Selection of Passages from Plato for English Readers" (Macmillan). The selections are from Jowett's translation, and the work carries out an expressed wish of the late Master of Balliol. In fact, the selection was made in large part by Jowett himself, having in mind the needs of the University Extension student and of the general reader. "The metaphysical part of Plato's philosophy has been kept in the background, attention being drawn especially to the political and ethical ideals which form a great part of his teaching, and which, like the simple truths of religion, have a peculiar and undying attraction for ourselves." Each extract has a brief introduction by Mr. Knight, and the work is furnished with a good index.

The revival of interest in the popular fiction of a past generation has brought us many reprints of old favorites, and it has been clearly only a question of time when the romancer of the solitary horseman should have his turn. Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons now issue, in what they call the "Fontainebleau Edition," the "Richelieu" of G. P. R. James. There are two neat volumes, boxed, without illustrations. If this is the forerunner of a complete edition of James, the publishers have before them a task of no little magnitude.

Professor C. Horstman, late of the University of Berlin, has edited for the "Library of Early English Writers" the works of Richard Rolle of Hampole and his followers (Macmillan). The volume is the first to be issued in the series to which it belongs, and contains no less than 442 closely-printed pages. There is no index, or even conspectus of the contents of any sort, and the Introduction, written in ponderous Teutonic style, gives practically no clue to the contents of the work. This introduction, we are informed, is "to be continued," but as to when, where, or why, the bewildered student gets no intimation. We are, of course, thankful for the bare text, but we should be doubly thankful were it accompanied by a modicum of useful apparatus.

Messrs. Curtis & Co., of Boston, publish a "Handbook of the New Public Library in Boston," compiled by Mr. Herbert Small, and sold for the modest sum of ten cents. It is mainly devoted to the artistic features of the building—the architecture and the painting—all of which are described at length, and well illustrated by photographic reproductions. The history of the library is not, however, wholly neglected, nor its special collections and other bibliographical features. Boston may take a just pride in such an incorporation of the higher civic ideals as this noble building with its contents embody, and visitors to the institution will do well to provide themselves with the pamphlet which has occasioned this note.

Dr. Edward Everett Hale, Jr., has edited for the "Athenæum Press" series of English classics (Ginn), a volume of "Selections from the Poetry of Robert Herrick." "I have tried," says the editor, "to give all Herrick's best poems; but I have also, by including some that are by no means his best, aimed at giving an idea of his work that would be fairly accurate as well as pleasing." The editor's introduction, which extends to some sixty pages, is a critical and biographical study that exhibits high qualities of scholarship and discerning taste. Notes, a glossary, and an index, complete the apparatus of this admirably-executed text.

## LITERARY NOTES.

"The Ailment of the Century," by Dr. Max Nordau, is announced by Mr. F. Tennyson Neely, Chicago.

"F frivolous Cupid," a new book by Mr. Anthony Hope, is to be published at once by Messrs. Platt, Bruce & Co., New York.

A work on the Greenland Icefields, by Professor G. Frederick Wright, is announced for early publication by Messrs. D. Appleton & Co.

It is reported from London that Mr. Alfred Austin, the journalist and versifier, has been appointed poet laureate. Such a report needs strong confirmation.

"The Return of the Native," with a striking etched frontispiece, is the latest addition to the standard library series of Mr. Hardy's novels, published by Messrs. Harper & Brothers.

The first volume of the much talked of "Recollections" of the Hon. John Sherman is just issued by the Werner Co., Chicago. The second volume is on the press, and will be ready in about two weeks.

Mr. Robert Grant's "Opinions of a Philosopher" and "Reflections of a Married Man," familiar to readers of "Scribner's Magazine," now reappear in two tasteful volumes of Scribners' "Cameo Edition."

"A Sportsman's Sketches," Tourguénieff's epoch-making first book, now make two volumes in Mrs. Garnett's series of translations from the great Russian. They are published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

A new story by M. Jules Verne, in an English translation entitled "Captain Antifer," is announced by Messrs. R. F. Fenno & Co., New York. The story relates to the struggle for Grecian independence in 1830.

Messrs. Roberts Brothers have just published "The Marriage Contract" in their series of translations from Balzac, and have added a fourth volume to their English Molière. Both translations are by Miss Wormeley.

An illustrated work on the "Episcopal Palaces of England" is announced for immediate publication by Mr. Thomas Whittaker, New York. The work is to contain 120 drawings, made by Mr. Alexander Ansted.

The Kents centenary was celebrated in Chicago, at the Armour Institute, the afternoon of October 29. The principal features of the occasion were an address by Mr. T. C. Roney and a poem by the Rev. F. W. Gunsaulus.

A new edition of "Whist or Bumblepuppy," revised and enlarged, comes from the press of Messrs. Frederick Warne & Co. This is too good a book to grow old, whatever direction the scientific evolution of the game may take.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. inaugurate their "People's Edition" of Tennyson with two booklets, not unlike the "Temple" Shakespeare in appearance, containing, respectively, "Juvenilia" and "The Lady of Shalott and Other Poems."

Professor William Cranston Lawton is about to publish a volume of poems, in a limited edition upon hand-made paper. The book will appear in holiday garb, illustrated, bearing the title "Folia Dispersa." It will be sold only by subscription.

Colonel Richard Malcolm Johnston visited Chicago a few days ago as the guest of the Twentieth Century Club, and addressed that organization the evening of October twenty-second, his subject being "Old-Time Rural Life in Middle Georgia."

Ruggiero Bonghi, the Italian philosopher and historian, died on the twenty-second of October. He was born near Naples, in 1828; was the Italian translator of Aristotle and Plato; and a professor, deputy, and cabinet minister under Minghetti.

Beginning with the December number, the annual subscription to "The Arena" will be reduced from five dollars to three. This announcement is coupled with a promise that the review shall be "stronger, brighter, abler, and more attractive than ever."

Mr. Edward Arnold, the London publisher, has established a branch office in New York, and announces for immediate issue "Studies in Early Victorian Literature," by Mr. Frederic Harrison, and "The Demagogue and Lady Phayre," by Mr. William J. Locke.

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons announce for early issue "The Gold Diggings of Cape Horn, A Study of Life in Terra del Fuego and Patagonia," by Mr. John R. Spears; a work narrating a journey made in an Argentine naval transport along the coast of Patagonia, around Terra del Fuego.

Two new sections of the "Oxford English Dictionary" (Macmillan) carry on the letters D and F from Derivative to Development, and from Fee to Field, respectively. Dr. Murray is responsible for the former letter, and Mr. Henry Bradley for the latter. Each of these sections numbers sixty-four pages.

A collection of the essays of Mr. Gamaliel Bradford, Jr., which have graced the pages of the "Atlantic Monthly," will be issued by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. in a volume entitled "American Types." The same house will soon publish a work on Mathematical Physics, by Prof. A. G. Webster of Clark University.

"The Combined Press" is the name given to a new literary syndicate, of which Mr. John Kendrick Bangs is president. It invites authors of repute to become stockholders, and offers to place their MSS. to the best pecuniary advantage. One thousand shares at fifteen dollars each are to be issued. The headquarters are in New York.

If the "English Dialect Dictionary" is to become a fact, it must receive the support of the public. A thousand subscribers are needed, willing to engage to pay \$7.50 annually for eight years, in return for two half-yearly parts. All such in this country should notify the American agents, Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

Southey's "English Seamen," edited by Mr. David Hannay, and Isaac Walton's lives of Donne, Wotton, Hooker, Herbert, and Sanderson, are the newest volumes in the beautiful and inexpensive series of "English Classics," issued under the general supervision of Mr. W. E. Henley, and published in this country by Messrs. Stone & Kimball.

Three additional autumn publications announced by Messrs. Way & Williams, Chicago, are: "Under the Pines, and Other Verses," by Mrs. Lydia Avery Coonley, whose poems are not unknown to the readers of periodical literature; "Nim and Cum, and the Wonderhead Stories," a volume "for children and their elders," by Mrs. Catherine Brooks Yale; and "The Little Room, and Other Stories," by Mrs. Madelene Yale Wynne, with cover-design, frontispiece, and decorations, by the author.

The new House of Commons includes in its membership the following men of letters, among others: Mr.

A. H. D. Acland, Mr. H. O. Arnold-Foster, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mr. Augustine Birrell, Mr. James Bryce, Mr. George N. Curzon, Sir Charles W. Dilke, Mr. R. B. Haldane, Mr. R. C. Jebb, Lord Lorne, Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. H. M. Stanley, and Sir George Trevelyan. Comparison with the American House of Representatives would be too "odorous" for our patriotism.

Messrs. George H. Richmond & Co., New York, announce a sumptuous edition of Henri Beyle's famous romance, "La Chartreuse de Parme," which has never before appeared in English. The edition will be a limited one in three volumes, with thirty-two etchings and an etched portrait of the author. The same firm will issue a limited edition of a "Letter from Captain Cuellar to His Majesty Philip II." The letter is one to which Froude makes reference in his "Spanish Armada," and is now first translated into English by Mr. Henry D. Sedgwick, Jr.

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, following the example of other houses, have just issued a neat portrait catalogue of their publications. Nearly a hundred faces appear, some of them far from familiar to the general public. We note particularly the fine heads of Mr. R. D. Blackmore, the Rev. Stopford A. Brooke, Mr. Thomas Hodgkin, and Dr. Augustus Jessopp.—Another meritorious catalogue, combining attractive typography and paper with well prepared matter, is issued by Messrs. J. Selwin Tait & Sons. By means of compact descriptions and brief quoted characterizations, the reader is enabled to form a fair general idea of each work in the list.

Mr. Arthur Way and Mr. Frederic Spencer have collaborated in the preparation of a pamphlet volume summarizing "The Song of Roland" for English readers (Macmillan). The greater part of the epic is condensed into prose narrative, but the more striking episodes are put into a rough sort of English verse, of which we subjoin a specimen:

"Roland is ware of the hand of death;  
with such might as he may  
He uprieth, and rallieth his strength—  
O me, but his face is grey!  
He hath grasped sword Durendal bared;  
before him a brown rock rose;  
In sorrow and wrath he smiteth thereon  
ten giant blows."

One can get a very fair idea of the substance and spirit of the great epic from this little volume.

The next publication of the Grolier Club of New York will be an edition of the Poems of Dr. John Donne, reprinted from the edition of 1633, revised by James Russell Lowell, with the various readings of the other editions of the seventeenth century, and with a preface, an introduction, and notes by Professor Norton. The edition will be in two sixteenmo volumes, printed from new Scotch type on German hand-made paper, and will contain portraits of Dr. Donne, and other embellishments. The work is expected to appear in November.—It is interesting to note, in this connection, that the new Caxton Club of Chicago, an organization somewhat similar to the Grolier, contemplates reproducing, as its first publication, Franklin's edition, issued in Philadelphia in 1744, of Cicero's "Cato Major, or Discourse of Old Age." The translation is one made for Franklin's edition by Judge Logan of Philadelphia; and in the reprint it is intended to reproduce, so far as practicable, the characteristic features of Franklin's typography.

## TOPICS IN LEADING PERIODICALS.

November, 1896 (First List).

American Humorists. L. A. Sherman. *Chautauquan*.  
 Anglo-Indian Life, Modern. E. L. Weeks. *Harper*.  
 Arctic Book, A New. H. M. Stanley. *Dial*.  
 Armenian Question, The. James Bryce. *Century*.  
 Bagehot, Walter. Woodrow Wilson. *Atlantic*.  
 Coleridge's Note-Books, Leaves from. T. F. Huntington. *Dial*.  
 College Women, A Generation of. Frances M. Abbott. *Forum*.  
 Cooperation among Farmers. Edward F. Adams. *Forum*.  
 Croker, Richard. E. J. Edwards. *McClure*.  
 Duse, Eleonora. J. Ranken Towne. *Century*.  
 England, Ransome's History of. J. W. Thompson. *Dial*.  
 Equality as Basis of Good Society. W. D. Howells. *Century*.  
 Fine Art Copyright Act, A. G. E. Samual. *Magazine of Art*.  
 Fromentin, Eugène. Garnet Smith. *Magazine of Art*.  
 German Women Leaders. Emily M. Burbank. *Chautauquan*.  
 Glacial Geology, Progress of. R. D. Salisbury. *Dial*.  
 Huxley's Essays. W. K. Brooks. *Forum*.  
 Issues of 1896. Theo. Roosevelt and W. E. Russell. *Century*.  
 Japan after the War. Lafcadio Hearn. *Atlantic*.  
 Jesus' Religion, Sociality of. George D. Herron. *Arena*.  
 Kaiserworth and Its Founder. Eleonora Kinnicutt. *Century*.  
 Keats Centenary, The. Montgomery Schuyler. *Forum*.  
 Lincoln, New Books about. *Dial*.  
 Lincoln's Boyhood. Ida M. Tarbell. *McClure*.  
 Literary Boston Thirty Years Ago. W. D. Howells. *Harper*.  
 Lowell, James Russell. William C. Lawton. *Lippincott*.  
 Medical Education. A. L. Benedict. *Lippincott*.  
 Mexico, The Republic of. Arthur Inkersley. *Chautauquan*.  
 Miles, Nelson A. George E. Pond. *McClure*.  
 Missions, Old Californian. J. Torrey Connor. *Chautauquan*.  
 Mural Decoration in America. Royal Cortissoos. *Century*.  
 Napoleon's Invasion of Russia. Poultnay Bigelow. *Harper*.  
 Naval Warfare, Future of. Walter Mitchell. *Atlantic*.  
 Navy, The, as a Career. Alfred T. Mahan. *Forum*.  
 Novels, Recent English. William Morton Payne. *Dial*.  
 Occultism, Practical. Margaret B. Pecke. *Arena*.  
 Physical Education of Women in College. The. *Atlantic*.  
 Plutocracy and Paternalism. Lester F. Ward. *Forum*.  
 Poetry of the Victorian Era. *Dial*.  
 Railroad Situation, The General. O. D. Ashley. *Forum*.  
 Real and Ideal, The. John Burroughs. *Dial*.  
 Sculpture of the Year. Claude Phillips. *Magazine of Art*.  
 South, The, and Free Silver. John T. Morgan. *Arena*.  
 Stamboloff. Stoyan K. Vatralsky. *Forum*.  
 Stevenson, Robert Louis. Mrs. Van Rensselaer. *Century*.  
 Tasso. M. V. Cherbuliez. *Chautauquan*.  
 Third-Term Tradition, The. J. B. McMaster. *Forum*.  
 Vaccination an Error. Alfred Milnes. *Arena*.  
 Woman's Position in Pagan Times. H. H. Boyesen. *Forum*.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[The following list, containing 140 titles, includes books received by THE DIAL since its last issue.]

## HISTORY.

Napoleon's Last Voyages: Being the Diaries of Admiral Sir Thomas Usher, R.N., and John R. Glover, Secretary to Rear Admiral Cockburn. Illus., 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 203. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$3.  
 An Advanced History of England from the Earliest Times to the Present Days. By Cyril Rayson, M.A., author of "A Short History of England." With maps, 12mo, pp. 1060. Macmillan & Co. \$2.25.  
 Life in the Tulleries under the Second Empire. By Anna L. Bicknell. Illus., large 8vo, gilt top, pp. 279. The Century Co. \$2.25.  
 The Story of Bohemia. By Frances Greger. Illus., 12mo, pp. 486. Cranston & Curtis. \$1.50.  
 The Iroquois and the Jesuits. By Rev. Thomas Donohoe, D.D. Illus., 12 mo, pp. 276. Buffalo Catholic Publication Co.

## BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.

Recollections of Abraham Lincoln (1847-1865). By Ward Hill Lamon, edited by Dorothy Lamon. With portrait, 12mo, pp. 276. A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.50.  
 The Emperor Napoleon III. By Pierre de Lano; trans. by Helen Hunt Johnson. With portrait, 12mo, pp. 383. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.  
 The Journal of Countess Françoise Krasinska, Great Grandmother of Victor Emmanuel. Trans. from the Polish by Kasimir Dziakonaka. Illus., 16mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 185. A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.25.

## GENERAL LITERATURE.

A Selection of Passages from Plato for English Readers. From the translation by B. Jowett, M.A.; edited, with introductions, by M. J. Knight. In 2 vols., 12mo, gilt tops. Macmillan & Co. \$3.50.  
 Miscellaneous Studies: A Series of Essays. By Walter Pater. 12mo, uncut, pp. 222. Macmillan & Co. \$1.75.  
 Earthwork Out of Tuscany: Being Impressions and Translations of Maurice Hewlett. With frontispiece, 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 179. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.75.  
 Abraham Lincoln's Speeches. Compiled by L. E. Chittenden, author of "President Lincoln." With portrait, 16mo, gilt top, pp. 371. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.  
 Impressions and Memories. By J. Ashcroft Noble. 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 173. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.50.  
 Our Common Speech: Six Papers on Topics Connected with the English Language. By Gilbert M. Tucker. 12mo, pp. 240. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.  
 The Spirit of Judaism. By Josephine Lazarus. 12mo, gilt top, pp. 202. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.  
 The Reflections of a Married Man, and the Opinions of a Philosopher. By Robert Grant. Each in 1 vol., with frontispiece, 16mo, gilt top. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$2.50.  
 King Arthur: A Drama in a Prologue and Four Acts. By J. Comyns Carr. 8vo, pp. 67. Macmillan & Co. 75 cts.

## POETRY.

Poems of Home and Country, also, Sacred and Miscellaneous Verse. By Rev. Samuel Francis Smith, D.D.; edited by Gen. Henry B. Carrington, LL.D. With portraits, 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 382. Silver, Burdett & Co. \$1.50.  
 Songs and Other Verses. By Dollie Radford. 16mo, uncut, pp. 93. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.  
 The Tower, with Legends and Lyrics. By Emma Huntington Nason. 12mo, gilt top, pp. 141. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.  
 A Song of the Sea, and Other Poems. By Eric Mackay, author of "Love Letters of a Violinist." 16mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 162. Stone & Kimball. \$1.25.  
 Poems of a Youthful Bard. By Gordon A. Damon. With Portrait, 12mo, gilt edges, pp. 61. Detroit, Mich.: The Author. 60 cts.

## FICTION.

A Singular Life. By Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. 12mo, pp. 426. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.  
 The Princess Sonia. By Julia Magruder. Illus., 12mo, gilt top, pp. 225. The Century Co. \$1.25.  
 A Love Episode. By Emile Zola; trans., with preface, by Ernest Alfred Visstelly. Illus., 8vo, gilt top, pp. 386. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$2.  
 The Life of Nancy. By Sarah Orne Jewett. 12mo, pp. 322. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.  
 The Bachelor's Christmas, and Other Stories. By Robert Grant. Illus., 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 309. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.  
 A Wedding, and Other Stories. By Julien Gordon, author of "Poppa." 12mo, pp. 232. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.  
 Lilith. By George MacDonald, author of "Donal Grant." 12mo, pp. 351. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.  
 Matthew Furth. By Ida Lemmon, author of "A Pair of Lovers." 12mo, pp. 384. Longmans, Green & Co. \$1.25.  
 The Wonderful Visit. By H. G. Wells, author of "The Time Machine." 16mo, pp. 245. Macmillan & Co. \$1.25.  
 Kitwyk Stories. By Anna Eichberg King, author of "Brown's Retreat, and Other Stories." Illus., 12mo, pp. 319. The Century Co. \$1.50.  
 The Secret of the Court: A Romance of Life and Death. By Frank Frankfort Moore. Illus., 12mo, pp. 277. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.



- Miss Grace of All Souls. By William Edwards Tirebuck, author of "St. Margaret." 12mo, pp. 351. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.
- A Madeira Party. By S. Weir Mitchell, M.D. With frontispiece, 32mo, gilt edges, pp. 165. Century Co. \$1.
- Beatrice of Bayou Têche. By Alice Ilgenfritz Jones. 12mo, pp. 386. A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.25.
- The Way of a Maid. By Katharine Tynan Hinkson. 12mo, pp. 300. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.
- Tales of an Engineer, with Rhymes of the Rail. By Cy Warman. 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 244. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.
- In Defiance of the King: A Romance of the American Revolution. By Chauncey C. Hotchkiss. 12mo, pp. 334. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.
- Red Rowans. By Mrs. F. A. Steel, author of "Miss Stuart's Legacy." 12mo, pp. 406. Macmillan & Co. \$1.
- A Son of the Plains. By Arthur Paterson, author of "A Man of His Word." 12mo, pp. 261. Macmillan & Co. \$1.25.
- The Rivalries of Long and Short Codiac. By George Wharton Edwards. Illus., 32mo, gilt edges, pp. 156. The Century Co. \$1.
- The Carbonels. By Charlotte M. Yonge, author of "The Heir of Redclyffe." Illus., 12mo, pp. 299. Thomas Whittaker. \$1.25.
- As the Wind Blows. By Eleanor Merron, author of "The Last Rehearsal." With portrait, 12mo, pp. 330. Lovell, Coryell & Co. \$1.25.
- John Darker. By Aubrey Lee. 12mo, uncut, pp. 466. Macmillan & Co. \$1.25.
- Paul Heriot's Pictures. By Alison McLean, author of "Quiet Stories from an Old Woman's Garden." Illus., 12mo, pp. 306. Frederick Warrs & Co. \$1.25.
- The Crooked Stick; or, Polli's Probation. By Rolf Boldrewood, author of "Robbery under Arms." 12mo, uncut, pp. 306. Macmillan & Co. \$1.25.
- The Horseman's Word. By Neil Roy. 12mo, pp. 438. Macmillan & Co. \$1.25.
- Wild Rose: A Tale of the Mexican Frontier. By Francis Francis, author of "Monquito." 12mo, pp. 381. Macmillan & Co. \$1.
- One Woman's Story; or, The Chronicles of a Quiet Life. By Ellen A. Lutz. Illus., 12mo, pp. 300. Cranston & Curtis. \$1.25.
- Fettered Yet Free: A Study in Heredity. By Annie S. Swan, author of "Aldersyde." 12mo, pp. 454. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.
- The Charlatan. By Robert Buchanan and Henry Murray. 12mo, pp. 272. Chicago: F. Tennyson Neely. \$1.25.
- La Belle-Nivernaise, and Other Stories. From the French of Alphonse Daudet. Illus., 16mo, gilt top, pp. 221. T. Y. Crowell & Co. \$1.
- Where Highways Cross. By J. S. Fletcher, author of "When Charles the First Was King." Illus., 16mo, pp. 194. Macmillan's "Iris Series." 75 cts.
- A Woman in It: A Sketch of Feminine Misadventure. By "Rita." 12mo, pp. 285. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.
- The Passing of Altx. By Mrs. Marjorie Paul. 12mo, pp. 266. Arena Pub'g Co. \$1.25.
- Lady Bonnie's Experiment. By Tighe Hopkins. With frontispiece, 18mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 199. Henry Holt & Co. 75 cts.
- Wilmot's Child. By Atey Nynne. 18mo, pp. 194. Dodd, Mead & Co. 75 cts.
- One Rich Man's Son. By Mrs. Emma Lefferts Super. Illus., 12mo, pp. 209. Cranston & Curtis. 90 cts.
- The Rev. John Henry. By Percival R. Benson. 18mo, uncut, pp. 188. A. S. Barnes & Co.

## NEW VOLUMES IN THE PAPER LIBRARIES.

- Rand, McNally's Globe Library: The Wish, by Hermann Sudermann. 12mo, pp. 296. 50 cts.
- Allen & Co.'s Way Town Series: There Came a Day, by Harvey Hinton. 12mo, pp. 306. 50 cts.

## TRAVEL AND DESCRIPTION.

- Cruising among the Caribbees: Summer Days in Winter Months. By Charles Augustus Stoddard, author of "Beyond the Rockies." Illus., 8vo, pp. 198. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.
- Washington in Lincoln's Time. By Noah Brooks, author of "American Statesmen." 12mo, gilt top, pp. 328. The Century Co. \$1.25.

- Hans Breitmann in Germany—Tyrol. By Charles G. Leland. 16mo, uncut, pp. 168. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.
- Notes of a Professional Exile. By E. S. Nadal. With frontispiece, 32mo, gilt edges, pp. 164. Century Co. \$1.

## NATURE STUDIES.

- The Pheasant: Its Natural History, etc. By Rev. H. A. MacPherson and others. Illus., 12mo, uncut, pp. 263. Longmans, Green, & Co. \$1.75.
- Subject to Vanity. By Margaret Benson. Illus., 12mo, pp. 144. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.

## SCIENCE.

- Studies in the Evolutionary Psychology of Feeling. By Hiram M. Stanley. 8vo, uncut, pp. 392. Macmillan & Co. \$2.25.
- Darwin, and after Darwin. By George John Romanes, M.A. Part II, Post-Darwinian Questions of Heredity and Utility. With portrait, 12mo, gilt top, pp. 344. Open Court Pub'g Co. \$1.50.
- The Growth of the Brain: A Study of the Nervous System in Relation to Education. By Henry Herbert Donaldson. Illus., 12mo, pp. 374. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.
- Electricity for Everybody: Its Nature and Uses Explained. By Philip Atkinson, A.M., author of "Elements of Static Electricity." Illus., 12mo, pp. 239. Century Co. \$1.50.
- Lehrbuch der Allgemeinen Psychologie. Von Dr. Johannes Rehnke. 8vo, uncut, pp. 582. New York: Gustav E. Stechert.

## FINANCIAL AND SOCIAL STUDIES.

- Public Finance. By C. F. Bastable, M.A. Second edition, revised and enlarged; 8vo, uncut, pp. 716. Macmillan & Co. \$4.
- Statistics and Sociology. By Richmond Mayo-Smith, Ph.D. 8vo, gilt top, pp. 399. Macmillan & Co. \$3.

## PHILOSOPHY.

- Hedonistic Theories from Aristippus to Spencer. By John Watson, LL.D. 12mo, uncut, pp. 248. Macmillan & Co. \$1.75.

## LAW.

- The History of English Law before the Time of Edward I. By Sir Frederick Pollock, Bart., M.A., and Frederic W. Maitland, LL.D. In 2 vols., large 8vo, uncut. Little, Brown, & Co. Boxed, \$9.

## THEOLOGY AND RELIGION.

- College Sermons. By the late Benjamin Jowett, M.A.; edited by the Hon. W. H. Fremantle, M.A. 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 348. Macmillan & Co. \$2.
- The Christ of To-Day. By George A. Gordon. 12mo, gilt top, pp. 322. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.50.
- The Spirit of the Age, and Other Sermons. By David James Burrell, D.D. 12mo, pp. 381. New York: W. B. Eerdmans. \$1.50.
- Dr. Miller's Year Book: A Year's Daily Readings. By J. R. Miller, D.D. With portrait, 16mo, gilt top, pp. 366. T. Y. Crowell & Co. \$1.25.

## ART AND MUSIC.

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